

SOCCER WEEK

30th OCTOBER, 1974.

3 HIGH STREET, PRAHRAN.

EDITORIAL: 51-9870

ADVERTISING: 51-9878

FOLIO NO.20
PRICE 20c (SYDNEY 30c)

FIRST WITH THE POOLS!

SOCCER TIPS AND NEWS BY JOCK STEPHEN Page2

MATCHES PLAYED

X	BURNLEY	BIRMINGHAM	1
	CARLISLE	WEST HAM	2
X	CHELSEA	LEICESTER	3
	COVENTRY	LEEDS	4
	DERBY	Q.P.R.	5
	LIVERPOOL	ARSENAL	6
	LUTON	SHEFF. UTD.	7
X	MAN. CITY	STOKE	8
X	MIDDLESBRO'	NEWCASTLE	9
	TOTTENHAM	EVERTON	10
	WOLVES	IPSWICH	11
	ASTON VILLA	NOTTS. C.	12
	BRISTOL C.	MAN. UTD.	13
X	HULL	FULHAM	14
X	MILLWALL	BOLTON	15
	NORWICH	BRISTOL R.	16
	NOTT'M FOR.	OLDHAM	17
	ORIENT	CARDIFF	18
X	OXFORD UTD.	PORTSMOUTH	19
	SHEFF. WED.	YORK	20
	SOUTH'PTON	WEST BROM.	21
	SUNDERLAND	BLACKPOOL	22
	ALDERSHOT	CHARLTON	23
	BRIGHTON	SWINDON	24
X	BURY	CRYSTAL P.	25
X	GILLINGHAM	HALIFAX	26
	GRIMSBY	TRANMERE	27
	HUDDERSF'LD	COLCHESTER	28
X	PETERBORO'	BLACKBURN	29
X	PLYMOUTH	WATFORD	30
X	PORT VALE	CHESTERF'LD	31
	PRESTON	SOUTHEND	32
	WALSALL	BOURNEM'TH	33
X	WREXHAM	HEREFORD U.	34
	BRADFORD C.	BARNLEY	35
	BRENTFORD	MANSFIELD	36
X	CREWE	SOUTHPORT	37
	DARLINGTON	HARTLEPOOL	38
	EXETER	SCUNTHORPE	39
	NEWPORT	STOCKPORT	40
X	NORTH'PTON	CHESTER	41
X	ROCHDALE	CAMB'GE UTD.	42
	ABERDEEN	PARTICK	43
X	AIRDRIE	ARBROATH	44
	AYR UTD.	ST. JOHNS'NE	45
	DUNDEE UTD.	CELTIC	46
	HEARTS	DUMBARTON	47
X	MORTON	KILMARNOCK	48
	RANGERS	DUNDEE	49
	ALLOA	ST. MIRREN	50
	BERWICK R.	MEADOWB'K	51
	CLYDEBANK	E. STIRLING	52
X	FALKIRK	COWDENB'TH	53
	FORFAR	STIRLING A.	54
	HAMILTON	EAST FIFE	55
	Q. OF SOUTH	MONTROSE	56
	RAITH R.	ALBION R.	57



NOV. 9

ACTION AT MIDDLE PARK SOUTH HELLAS v FOOTSCRAY J.U.S.T.

SOCCER POOLS TIPS

SOCCER POOLS

by Jock Stephen

The battle of the B's at the top of the fixture list on the 9th of November could be the start of a winning coupon for you, so I give Burnley v Birmingham pride of place in my NAP HAND. Others to take their place in this short list of choice draws are — Chelsea v Leicester, Hull v Fulham, Peterborough v Blackburn and Airdrie v Arbroath.

The remainder of my selections as per list are intended to steer you away from the unlikely drawn matches, which either appear too one-sided, or teams not playing up to form. The only excuse offered by some people, seems to be that they have not studied the teams chances.

This column sets out to remedy all that, and provide readers with a modern and up-to-date method of DOING THE POOLS THE EASY WAY — WITHOUT FUSS. As the minor competitions are not being used for the present, I will dispense with the home and away forecasts for the present — until they are required for the future. Your queries on the pools have proved to be of interest to other readers, so let's hear from you C-o Box 134, P.O. Kew, 3101. The more curly the questions the better I like them. Stamped, addressed envelope, please.

xxx

I have it on the best authority that the pools firms will return to using some of the minor forms, such as the 4 Aways and the Simple Six and the rest on November 2. The major pools firms considered that the greatest demand was for the Treble Chance, but the public let them know that they resented their discontinuance. With the obvious success of Pools in Victoria, it is to be hoped that Australian Soccer Pools can see fit to introduce these features in due course.

xxx

The last word on the November 2 fixtures. My NAP HAND of 1-2-3-18-44 will still be the BEST FIVE for your second assault on the 24 point line, if you missed last week's issue, let me repeat the other numbers 8-13-14-16-21-23-31-33-41-47-48-55-56-57. Select two thirds of those numbers and permute with the five Nap selections and you will have a better list of possible chances. All the best of good luck.

INDEPENDIENTE TO MEET BAYERN MUNICH IN WORLD CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

At the third time of asking, Independiente of Argentina defeated Sao Paulo of Brazil 1-0 with a penalty in the 26th minute. The previous encounters had resulted in each side having a 2-0 victory. This is the third successive time that Independiente have won the Liberator Cup, which carries with it the South American Championship. The exact date of the World Cup Championship will be advised in the near future, and I believe will be played in Europe.

IN HOROSCOPIA

Gary Sprake, the former Leeds' custodian, now with Birmingham, is an Arian. Born between March 21 and April 20 Arians are ruled by the planet Mars, and this makes them fiery and energetic. They are natural leaders, and rarely shy. Although they do tend to be successful, they sometimes fail because they rush into things without thinking them out properly. The lucky stone is the Amethyst.

xxx

One of Holland's shrewdest footballers is top goal-scorer Willy van der Kuylen. He started rumours that Real Madrid were interested in him, so his club P.S.V. (last year's Dutch Cup winners) gave him an improved three year contract. In Holland, they call this "Soccer-Poker".

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The Brazilian club F.C. Santos have found a novel way to attract MORE spectators. At every home game, three fans are selected to take penalties against the team's substitute goalkeeper. The fan who scores the most goals receives a prize.

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Famous Hungarian club Ferencvaros have lately celebrated their 75th anniversary. During this time, members of the club have won 23 Olympic Gold Medals, 20 Silver and 19 Bronze; 8 Gold medals in various World Championships. There have also been 21 national titles won by this team.

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YOUR SOCCER WEEK POOLS SERVICE

Letters in my mail this week indicated how Soccer Week is spreading into Queensland, after a very successful launching in the Sydney area.

Mr. F.N. of Coolangatta, thanks very much for your letter from 'Seagull Territory' as you so aptly put it. I am pleased that you found the information of value, and that you will advise the 'locals' of this service. I note that some of your 'locals' live within 100 miles of each other.

The Melbourne 'AGE' on Monday mornings provide all results AND full League tables as well as their forecasts for the following Saturday. I know this daily paper is



on sale in Southport, and no doubt in Coolangatta and Surfers around 11 a.m. daily.

Soccer Week are planning to get a distribution centre on the Gold Coast in the near future. Pending this you can have Soccer Week mailed to you by subscription of 20 cents per copy plus postage on application to SOCCER WEEK (TOORAK TIMES), 3 HIGH STREET, PRAHRAN, for any period that you desire.

xxx

SO IT'S ALL SYSTEMS GO

The guarantees on the Australian Soccer Pools, which by now is right into its stride, is better known in Britain as a FULL COVER permutation. The reason being that on having eight score draws YOU MUST WIN A FIRST DIVIDEND, so you are FULLY COVERED.

In my travels last week about 6 p.m. I visited the Harp of Eria hotel in East Kew. In moving around the main bar, I overheard three separate conversations, and the topic was Soccer Pools.

Now the point I make is, two months ago one would not have heard much about this subject, and none of these gentlemen were aware of my identity. The popular expression used was that it was a GOER.

With only 7 selections scoring three points, you MUST win Seconds or Thirds or Fourth Dividends. A FULL COVER system will bring your best 8 selections together in ONE line.

xxx

NORTH VERSUS SOUTH 2nd Instalment;

"Northern teams regard it as a great challenge," says Jimmy Hill, "when they clash with a Southern team on their own ground. It's like a gauntlet being thrown down. It's a battle for supremacy, oddly though, it's a battle that the South do not appear to appreciate is being fought. London clubs in particular do not seem to recognise this Northern fetish of victory over the South."

Professional soccer was born in the North and records point to an overwhelming superiority and dominance of Northern clubs. In recent years only the great Spurs team of the late '50s and early '60s has seriously challenged the Northern supremacy in the League.

Indeed the South can

proudly point to the fact that Spurs are the only club this century to bring off that elusive soccer "GRAND SLAM" — the League and Cup double.

With equal pride the South can lay claim to showing the rest of Britain the road to success in Europe: Spurs and West Ham being the only British clubs to win a top European tournament.

But apart from these successes the Northern clubs have dominated the recent domestic Soccer Scene.

Why do the Northern players do so well? Two words from Joe Mercer — a great favourite in his playing days with Arsenal, provide the answer: "Better competitors". Says Mercer: "Northern players, brought up in a harder atmosphere, are much more determined to succeed than their Southern counterparts. When a Northern club like Liverpool goes to London it's a nice social engagement; when a London club goes up to Merseyside it's a battle royal."

Tremendous support from fans, better competitors — these are the two basic reasons, it seems. And these two points were also echoed to the full by Matt Busby and Vic Buckingham.

Billy Gray, the man who guided Millwall from the Fourth Division to the Second in successive seasons, and who has played for Burnley, Notts Forest and Chelsea in his day says, "Northern players go out to win. In the South, the attitude is: 'It's only a game'."

"Although players in the Third and Fourth Divisions in the South are often paid more than their Northern colleagues it is from the North that I have noticed the greater dedication and effort by Footballers. They have a completely different outlook on soccer."

Final instalment next week.

BIG MONEY BUYS THE LITTLE THINGS

When people dream of a big win on the pools they usually think of the expensive things, that they will be able to afford. The luxuries, the expensive things come to mind first. The large houses, the powerful classy sports cars, the world cruises with all luxuries laid on, are the first things to be thought of.

When it really happens to you, you may find like so many others have done, that the immediate pleasures come from the little things. From being able to afford things that cost a bit more than you could normally afford but not a great deal more. The ordinary things like never having to wait in a bus queue again — things that for a little extra money give you a lot of extra freedom.

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HINTS FROM THE EXPERTS

Even though I consider my selections are the equal of all the leading British Pools writers, it is

of interest to select some of these gentlemen's pointers.

For instance, 'Midas' of the 'News of the World' thinks that when selecting your games, never leave out several Scottish selections as dividends are usually higher when there are several of these included. His reasoning is, that many people omit Scottish games, under the mistaken impression that form in Scotland is of a lower order or standard. How wrong they can be.

Jim Gould, The BANKER of the Daily Express, says, you should always blend a mixture of form and fantasy by having some fancied forecasts along with a few surprises.

Peter Campling of the London Sun says, "How can anyone not afford to have a flutter on the pools. It is fun and a happy pastime and above all could be the answer to all our dreams. In any case, isn't it fun thinking what we could do with that quarter of a million quid."

Jim Bygraves says, "The price of a packet of cigarettes invested in the pools has many chances of landing a great dividend for the lucky punter."

EIGHT TO BE RELEGATED

Who will they be? Only the present top six can feel very confident, with anyone's guess as to who will be the other four, to make up the Scottish SUPER LEAGUE in 1975.

The leading contenders at present are the old firm Rangers and Celtic, the Eastern quartet Aberdeen, Hibernians, Dundee United and St Johnstone.

Of course Dundee and Morton are not to be denied some prospects, although they were both thrashed by Dunfermline and Motherwell respectively last Saturday, and following Hearts' glorious draw with top of the table Rangers, I would require to have a crystal ball well polished to predict the final TEN.

One forecast I will make, however, is that there are going to be some mighty close games in Scotland, so find your own crystal ball and look for draws amongst all those nail-biting finishes which are bound to take place.

How I would like to be where all that action is. But let's not forget those draws could mean three points in our pools coupon each week.

xxx

THE IMMORTAL PELE

Now that PELE's playing days are drawing to a close, his career can not be turned off like a tap.

Series of training and coaching films have been made by the Pepsi-Cola company under their International Youth Programme for use in all countries to propagate soccer.

I know that one series was shown on T.V. in Melbourne at an unsuitable hour, but nothing has been heard of it since. I feel that some ap-

proach should be made by the Soccer Federation to retain these films for use in educating the future generation of soccer stars.

Here is one example of Pele's teaching on goalkeeping and penalty kicks.

"A moment of soccer history. Pele's one thousandth goal — scored from the penalty spot. A perfect example of Pele following his own rules for taking penalty kicks. Placing the ball. Decide where YOU are going to place it — and stick to it. Don't change your mind. AND DON'T LOOK AT THE GOALIE. Obviously, no penalty kick should be aimed at the centre of the goal — that territory belongs to the keeper. Place a stick two yards in from each goalpost — and aim for the gap between stick and post. If you can get the ball in that space, you should score every time. A penalty kick should mean a goal. So get to it, you penalty-takers Junior AND Senior, it's practice makes perfect."

xxx

PARS FROM THE PAST

The biggest English international player of all time was Chelsea's Willie Foulke who stood 6 ft. 3 in. tall and weighed 21 stone 3lb. in his prime and up to 26 stone when playing for Bradford in his declining years. His hands were so large that a soccer ball could be grasped with one hand, as if it were a cricket ball in

a normal hand.

xxx

The youngest ever international player capped for his country was Ireland's W. K. Gibson of the Cliftonville club, who played at Belfast against England on March 3, 1894, at the age of 17.

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The longest game of soccer on record spanned two days. When Santos of Brazil played Benarol of Uruguay on August 2, 1962, the kick-off was at 9.30 p.m. The match ended at 1.00 a.m. in a three-all draw.

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The world record gate for any match occurred on July 1, 1950 at the World Cup Final when Brazil played Uruguay at Rio de Janeiro — 199,854. The British record of 149,547 dates back to the 1937 Scotland v England at Hampden Park, Glasgow.

xxx

The record for F.A. Cup wins is 7 by Aston Villa out of 9 final appearances. One other club has appeared 10 times — Newcastle United but they only collected the Cup on 6 occasions.

xxx

The most prolific goal scorer in the history of British first-class football was Jimmy McGrory of Glasgow Celtic. He scored 550 goals from 1922 to 1938. His total of 410 goals in League matches was surpassed by George A. Rowley, who retired in 1965 having scored 434 goals.

RESULTS FROM LAST WEEKS GAMES

Check pge.3 for up-to-date form

English Division One:

Arsenal 3, West Ham United 0; Burnley 1, Everton 1; Chelsea 3, Stoke City 3; Coventry City 2, Carlisle United 1; Derby County 2, Middlesbrough 3; Ipswich Town 1, Manchester City 1; Luton Town 1, Tottenham Hotspur 1; Newcastle United 0, Leicester City 1; Sheffield United 3, Birmingham City 2; Wolverhampton Wanderers 1, Queens Park Rangers 2.

English Division Two:

Aston Villa 3, Sheffield Wednesday 1; Bristol City 3, Notts County 0; Cardiff City 3, Oldham Athletic 1; Hull City 3, Sunderland 1; Manchester United 1, Southampton 0; Millwall 2, West Bromwich Albion 2; Nottingham Forest 1, Bristol Rovers 0; Orient 0, Norwich City 3; Oxford United 2, Fulham 1; Portsmouth 0, Blackpool 0; York City 1, Bolton Wanderers 3.

English Division Three:

Bournemouth 1, Charlton Athletic 2; Bury 0, Plymouth Argyle 1; Chesterfield 4, Watford 4; Gillingham 2, Brighton and Hove Albion 1; Halifax Town 1, Colchester United 1; Huddersfield Town 2, Swindon 2; Peterborough United 1, Aldershot 1; Port Vale 2, Crystal Palace 1; Preston North End 2, Grimsby Town 0; Walsall 1, Blackburn Rovers 3; Wrexham 1, Tranmere Rovers 0.

English Division Four:

Bradford City 1, Shrewsbury Town 2; Brentford 3, Torquay United 1; Crewe Alexandra 0, Cambridge United 0; Darlington 1, Lincoln City 4; Exeter City 1, Chester 0; Hartlepool 2, Mansfield Town 1; Northampton Town 5, Swansea City 1; Reading 0, Barnsley 3; Rochdale 2, Newport County 4; Scunthorpe United 0, Rotherham United 3; Workington 0, Doncaster Rovers 3.

Scottish League Division One:

Aberdeen 5, Airdrieonians 1; Ayr United 2; Clyde 2, St. Johnstone 2; Dundee United 3, Dumbarton 3; Dunfermline Athletic 3, Dundee 1; Hearts 1, Rangers 1; Morton 0, Motherwell 3; Kilmarnock v. Hibernian and Partick Thistle v. Celtic both postponed.

Scottish Division Two:

Aloa 0, East Fife 1; Berwick Rangers 4, Cowdenbeath 1; Brechin City 1, Stirling Albion 2; Clydebank 0, St. Mirren 0; Falkirk 3, Montrose 2; Forfar Athletic 2, East Stirling 3; Hamilton Academical 0, Queen of the South 2; Raith Rovers 2, Stenhousemuir 0; Stranraer 1, Albion 1; Queens Park v. Meadowbank Thistle postponed.

Scottish League Cup Final (at Hampden Park):

Celtic 6, Hibernian 3.

Check your Pools Form
here with Soccer Week.
first with the Pools !

ENGLISH LEAGUE

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Liverpool	14	10	1	3	22	8	21
Manchester City	15	8	4	3	20	16	20
Ipswich Town	15	8	2	5	19	10	18
Middlesbrough	14	7	4	3	22	16	18
Everton	15	4	10	1	20	17	18
Stoke City	14	6	5	3	23	18	17
Derby County	15	5	6	4	23	22	16
Burnley	15	7	2	6	24	24	16
Sheffield United	15	6	4	5	22	26	16
Newcastle United	14	5	5	4	19	20	15
West Ham United	15	6	4	5	25	25	14
Birmingham City	15	6	4	5	22	23	14
Wolverhampton W.	15	4	6	5	16	17	14
Coventry City	14	4	6	4	19	24	14
Carlisle United	15	5	3	7	13	14	13
Leicester City	13	4	4	5	17	18	12
Chelsea	14	3	6	5	16	23	12
Leeds United	14	4	3	7	16	16	11
Queens Pk. Rangers	14	3	5	6	13	17	11
Tottenham Hotspur	14	4	2	8	17	21	10
Arsenal	14	3	3	8	15	20	9
Luton Town	15	1	7	7	13	22	9

DIVISION TWO

Manchester United	15	11	3	1	25	7	25
Norwich City	14	8	5	1	21	9	21
Aston Villa	14	7	5	2	24	9	19
Sunderland	14	7	5	2	23	9	19
Hull City	15	5	6	4	19	25	16
W. Bromwich Albion	14	5	5	4	17	11	15
York City	15	5	5	5	21	19	15
Nottingham Forest	15	6	3	6	18	21	15
Oxford United	14	6	3	5	15	20	15
Bristol City	13	4	6	3	11	9	14
Blackpool	15	4	6	5	14	13	14
Bristol Rovers	14	5	4	5	13	17	14
Fulham	14	4	5	5	16	11	13
Bolton Wanderers	13	5	3	5	14	13	13
Notts County	15	3	7	5	14	20	13
Oldham Athletic	13	5	2	6	14	16	12
Orient	14	3	6	5	11	18	12
Millwall	15	4	3	8	15	22	11
Portsmouth	15	2	7	6	12	21	11
Southampton	14	3	4	7	18	23	10
Sheffield Wednesday	15	2	5	8	12	22	9
Cardiff City	14	3	2	9	13	25	8

DIVISION THREE

Preston North End	16	9	3	4	27	15	21
Blackburn Rovers	14	9	4	3	21	12	21
Peterborough United	15	8	4	3	18	15	20
Colchester United	15	7	5	3	23	15	19
Charlton Athletic	15	8	3	4	28	22	19
Crystal Palace	15	9	0	6	21	19	18
Swindon Town	16	6	6	4	24	25	18
Plymouth Argyle	16	8	1	7	21	21	17
Watford	16	5	7	4	23	25	17
Walsall	15	6	4	5	24	17	16
Hareford United	16	6	4	6	21	17	16
Southend United	16	7	2	7	17	15	16
Port Vale	15	4	7	4	20	20	15
Wrexham	14	5	4	5	23	20	14
Bury	16	5	4	7	15	17	14
Grimsby Town	16	6	2	8	22	26	14
Chesterfield	15	5	3	7	23	26	13
Bournemouth	14	5	2	7	13	13	12
Huddersfield Town	13	5	2	6	13	15	12
Halifax Town	16	2	8	6	17	25	12
Tranmere Rovers	15	4	3	8	16	18	11
Brighton and Hove A.	16	4	3	9	16	29	11
Aldershot	16	4	3	9	16	25	10
Gillingham	15	2	5	8	14	24	9

DIVISION FOUR

Shrewsbury Town	16	10	4	2	30	12	24
Mansfield Town	16	10	4	2	29	15	24
Rotherham United	15	8	4	3	29	15	20
Chester	16	8	2	6	20	13	18
Newport County	15	9	0	6	24	21	18
Northampton Town	14	7	3	4	32	18	17
Lincoln City	14	6	5	3	28	19	17
Bradford	16	8	1	7	18	15	17
Southport	16	6	5	5	20	21	17
Torquay United	17	5	7	5	17	21	17
Reading	14	7	2	5	22	16	16
Barnsley	17	6	4	7	20	18	16
Crewe Alexandra	16	6	4	6	14	14	16
Exeter City	15	7	2	6	17	19	16
Cambridge United	17	5	5	7	20	22	15
Swansea City	18	6	3	9	22	34	15
Darlington	18	5	4	9	27	31	14
Brentford	15	5	3	7	13	17	13
Rochdale	15	4	5	6	21	28	13
Doncaster Rovers	15	4	4	7	20	25	12
Hartlepool	12	4	3	5	13	17	11
Stockport County	14	4	2	8	18	28	10
Scunthorpe United	16	2	5	9	14	30	9
Workington	15	3	1	11	9	28	7

SCOTTISH LEAGUE

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Rangers	9	7	2	0	27	9	16
Celtic	8	7	0	1	26	9	14
Aberdeen	9	7	0	2	22	9	14
Dundee United	9	4	3	2	19	10	11
Hibernian	8	5	1	2	19	12	11
St. Johnstone	9	4	3	2	13	11	11
Dundee	9	3	2	4	7	9	8
Morton	9	3	2	4	9	14	8
Dumbarton	9	2	3	4	16	16	7
Airdrieonians	9	3	1	5	10	12	7
Motherwell	9	3	1	5	14	18	7
Dumfermline A.	9	2	3	4	13	19	7
Arbroath	9	3	1	5	8	15	7
Kilmarnock	8	2	3	3	8	17	7
Clyde	9	2	2	5	11	16	6
Partick Thistle	8	3	0	5	15	20	6
Ayr United	9	2	2	5	12	21	6
Hearts	9	1	3	5	10	22	5

DIVISION TWO

Queen of the South	13	9	1	3	31	7	19
East Fife	12	8	3	1	22	7	19
Montrose	13	8	2	3	24	15	18
East Stirling	13	8	2	3	27	21	18
St. Mirren	12	6	3	3	27	21	15
Stenhousemuir	13	5	5	3	20	16	15
Stirling Albion	12	7	1	4	20	18	15
Berwick Rangers	12	7	0	5	18	16	14
Stranraer	13	5	4	4	15	17	14
Alloa	13	4	5	4	19	13	13
Hamilton Aca.	10	5	3	2	15	10	13
Falkirk	10	6	0	4	21	13	12
Albion Rovers	12	4	3	5	25	22	11
Cowdenbeath	12	4	2	6	14	20	10
Raith Rovers	11	3	3	5	10	13	9
Clydebank	13	2	3	8	10	17	9
Queens Park	12	2	3	7	9	19	7
Brechin City	13	2	1	10	17	31	5
Forfar Athletic	12	1	2	9	15	36	4
Meadowbank Thistle	11	1	0	10	6	33	2

ENGLISH SOCCER

By STEPHEN LUBOFSKY

Usually the sportswriters' Player of the Year goes to a goalscorer, which is really quite unfortunate for those players who play in less glamorous positions, and whose efforts usually don't look as spectacular, as putting the ball in the back of the net. In this week's article I am not going to choose my Most Exciting Player, but rather my Most Exciting Team.

My Most Exciting Goalkeeper is a young lad who at the commencement of last season was an unknown. He made such a tremendous impact that right from the start Managers had their scouts eyeing him out.

If you haven't already guessed the name, he is Mervyn Day of West Ham, the East London club who have won a reputation for colourful, entertaining football even though they haven't won a major honour since 1965 when they won the European Cup Winners Cup.

In fact the season before last of 1972-73 they finished sixth in the league, but alas, last season just managed to avoid the relegation drop.

Young Mervyn Day was one of the reasons why they avoided the drop downstairs to the Second.

At the start of last season, he was third choice behind Bobby Ferguson and Peter Groiter, but when given the chance to make his debut showed really remarkable ability and maturity for an inexperienced 18-year-old.

One game of his which really stands out in my mind is West Ham against Liverpool last term.

He showed no traces of nerves, and played like a

veteran, and looked as cool as a cucumber when Alec Lindsay stepped up to take a penalty-kick. He saved it and West Ham earned a valuable point.

West Ham supporters acknowledged his fine performances by voting him second place in "Hammer's Player of the Year" behind brilliant captain Billy Bonds.

I can't seem to choose about my Most Exciting Full Back. The two candidates are Denis Rofe of Leicester and Mike Pejic of Stoke.

They are amazingly similar in many respects. Both are fine left backs, have a stocky build, are brilliant in the tackle, and have a fine spirit of adventure. They are also effective at going forward on the overlap, rather like the great Terry Cooper of Leeds, without getting stranded, leaving their posts or flanks exposed. And they can score goals too!

Recently Mike got the edge on Denis by at last winning England Caps, although I'm sure Denis will be challenging for that left-back position constantly.

My Most Exciting Central Defender just has to be Norman Hunter of Leeds United. He at last got the respect he deserves, and with all due respect for sports journalists and fans, was

Selected as "the best", by those most qualified to judge — his fellow footballers — and was awarded "The Players' Player of the Year" trophy.

Norman is so different from the "old fashioned" big boot centre-half who was only concerned with belting the ball blindly up field. He's got brawn and brains. He'll tackle like a tank, win the ball, and then start off a move with a pin-point pass from that fantastic left peg of his.

My Most Exciting Midfield Player is Alan Hudson, who since his move to Stoke City has really regained all his early elegant style.

George Eastham, the ex-Stoke veteran, who really knows football, described him recently as "brilliant". Alan has the knack of bringing out the best in anyone he plays alongside, and has made a huge contribution to Stoke's revival.

Somewhere down near the bottom of the table when he joined them for £170,000 in January 1974, the Potters had climbed to an impressive fifth place by the end of the season.

If Alan wasn't on the Soccer Scene I'd have plumped for Birmingham's young Trevor Fancis, as my Midfield crowd-thriller.

At first the Blues played him up front, but then moved him back, probably because being slight, couldn't take the hard knocks that are dished out in football's "firing line".

In his new role Trevor has shown all the qualities of an outstanding goal-maker. He gave Bob Latchford tremendous backing before the bearded striker moved to Everton. Trevor probably found it strange at first playing without Bob, but I

wouldn't mind betting that Bob missed Trevor even more.

My Most Exciting Winger goes to Tommy Hutchinson, who would just beat Kevin Keegan, for experience.

This Coventry ace whose phenomenal one-man shows have been the talk of Soccer. Tommy has given defenders nightmares in the last few seasons, in domestic and International football, and as predicted made a tremendous impact on the World Cup, and Scotland.

His speciality is streaking down the by-line, the ball at his feet, avoiding tackles without breaking stride is one of the most breathtaking sights in Soccer.

My Most Exciting Striker gave me a lot of trouble, but I finally choose Q.P.R.'s Stan Bowles. He's got all the flair, all the skills and is strictly a "one off player". By that I mean he's unique, a true individual, with a touch of genius, a real crowd puller and pleaser.

He's completely unpredictable both on and off the field. He has probably lost the chance to become a regular England International by not turning up to the England-Northern Ireland game in last season's Home Championships.

I do hope Stan conquers his temperament and concentrates on his football. He'd be a fool to do a "George Best"!

Well, that's about it. I hope you've enjoyed this week's article. Next week I will tell and discuss the team I regard as the best in the English F.A., and more on the domestic English scene at present.

Cheers.

POOLS AND THE A.G.M.

One of the most childish and stupid events at Thursday's VSF Annual General Meeting, was the attempt by Polonia, through president and Board member Mr. George Kerry to bring their commercial dealings with Vernons Soccer Pools into discussion at the A.G.M.

The president, Mr. Marmaras, rightly and very smartly stopped the matter.

It is well known that Polonia did not, initially, apply for a main agency and when they decided to, found they were too late.

It is interesting to note that the best performance by a main agent in the

first week, belongs to a Provisional League club, Geelong.

Geelong are so well organised that they have appointed a man full time on the job.

It is interesting, also, to note that Albion Rovers, main agent in Polonia's area, ran second to Geelong and that other great performances were put up by Mooroolbark and Morwell Falcons.

It is obvious that League status is no indication of the ability or reliability of a Soccer Pools' main agency.

Vernons are delighted with the first week's response.

BY JOHN MARTIN

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INSIDE THE GAME

MIKE O'HARA,
SLAVIAS GOALKEEPER
DELIVERS THIS WEEKLY REPORT.



THAT MAN BOGGI

TONY BOGGI has literally picked Alexander Soccer Club off the floor and injected a new sense of urgency into their play. Oh how I wish they had taken Boggi seven weeks earlier, for then we would have seen all action soccer from the Gold-Blacks. Alexander's massacre of J.U.S.T. two weeks ago was no fluke and speaks volumes for Boggi's aggressive strategum.

The same attacking flare was evident against George Cross this week but unfortunately the defence fell down again and the goalkeeping problem at the Fitzroy camp is something of an "achilles heel" in that results are being jeopardised weekly by the lack of a class keeper. Alexander are of course in the market for a keeper but to be perfectly frank, State League clubs have no depth anyway and the selling of any State League keeper to Alexander would only hinder that club's chances next term.

After January 1, 1975, no immigrants will be allowed into the country from anywhere in the world unless there are strong extraordinary circumstances. This is official news from the State Immigration Department in Melbourne and so overseas players will just not be able to enter the country unless the agreement was fixed prior to the January 1, 1975 deadline!

Mr. John Oliphant the "Saviour" of Slavia is back from his business trip to the United Kingdom. It is understood that he had trouble organising any players for the Slavia team next season but managed only tentative arrangements. I am sure that the new immigration restrictions will have made Mr. Oliphant's trip fruitless as far as new players for Slavia are concerned!

World Cup reserve keeper Jimmy Milisalevic was recruited into the J.U.S.T. team against Hellas at centre half and did a notable job in nullifying the "all purpose" Hellas attack. The move by team boss Cedo Cirkovic was a ridiculous one as far as Milisalevic's professional reputation was concerned but a brilliant one when the final whistle blew!

It seems "Jumping Jimmy" wasn't eating his spinach last week for Alexander hit four past him in 30 minutes! The move could unsettle Milisalevic or give him false beliefs that he is the answer to J.U.S.T.'s centre back problem, I hope not. Jimmy is a great keeper and he always belongs for me anyway in the goal! It is incredible but the newswriters must dislike Juventus' keeper Michael Harby, because two weeks ago they misspelt his christian name and

this time they managed to "Hash up" his surname!

For the record then his surname is not "Hawby" but Harby as in "Harbour". I will be most interested to see this edition of Soccer Week to see where they can go wrong this time!!

The news of the week is that I have been approached by Pan Hellenic to play with them next season. The terms were not discussed but the offer was made by an independent committee member of the Pan Hellenic Club while he was on business in Melbourne.

Two other players were approached but because of not wishing to break my promise to them cannot mention their names. They were not Slavia players however. I am at present teaching in Melbourne and have signed a contract with a Secondary College for 1975.

In addition to this I have now full ownership of my Waverley home and wish to build it into something special for my future wife and kids. The chance of playing in Sydney is exciting but I am a practical man and those around me come first.

The other two players concerned are not tied in any way and will I understand fly to Sydney in two weeks to look the place over and "talk turkey". There is definitely a strong possibility that I will leave Slavia and join another State League club however as with Billy "legs" Whiteside for the first team spot and me not sitting on the bench for "love nor money", it's odds on one of us will make the move.

Personally speaking I would not be upset about leaving Slavia despite the fact that they have always been very good to me and have always endeavoured to "do the right thing".

A new club would stimulate my play greatly and I was bitterly disappointed when Ivanoff went to Mooroolbark and not me! One thing is certain Billy will have a hell of a job to get a game next season as I am on a commando program. 10 miles a night (stamina work), weight-training progression and boxing will ensure my fitness for March 1975.

I have withdrawn from all alcoholic beverage as I

will need all of my brain cells for the 1975 onslaught. If the Victorian Soccer Federation follow my example they might find ways and means to get the game off its anus and on some sort of professional footing!

At the moment they are paid clerks, not paid to be imaginative but to coordinate the already "antiquated" administrative duties which are a schoolboy's function!

In twelve months this game could be the biggest crowd puller in Victoria's history, with the right P.A. man at the wheel. Right now we have the "Beverley Hillbillies" at the Helm. I would be quite prepared to take on the job of Director of Public Relations for the V.S.F. and could promise an annual turnover of double the figure these people have in their little box at V.S.F. House.

Many queries have been forthcoming regarding the mysterious agent named "Hawkeye" who is a representative of the Toorak Times. Is he man, woman, or beast they ask? The truth of the matter is that nobody really knows but "It" has a habit of cropping up in the most unlikely situations, and divulging the best kept secrets.

Team mate Frank Campbell certainly does not pull any punches in his weekly articles and this is typical of his play on the field. Frank's mother and father recently arrived in Melbourne and by all accounts are setting into their modern flat very well. Nice to see the older people settle in a country so different from Britain's way of life.

Frank and his new window cleaning partner Charlie Murphy are cleaning windows by the score and have had no complaints yet!

The Hellas machine finally ground to a halt against the Yugoslavs' from Footscray. Marko Fode was again in acrobatic form despite the two goals which beat him. Hellas' chances of gaining three out of four trophies came to an end against J.U.S.T. and I do not anticipate them qualifying for the final. Alexander with Boggi at the Helm have re-emerged in sensational fashion, scoring at will but as in every case "a new broom sweeps clean." 1975 will see how good Boggi really is but the way Alexander are performing right now he could have a trophy under his belt to kick off with!

Les Shorrock the former Sunshine City official has a sports store in St Kilda where players can get all their sporting goods. Les no doubt will "see the boys right,"

regarding discounts if you are interested in purchasing equipment.

Good news as far as Victorian fans are concerned is that Jimmy

Tansey the exciting "rocket shot" Slavia full back is well on the way to recovery following his hamstringing injury against Hellas this year.

THE CAMPBELLS ARE COMING!

BY FRANK CAMPBELL

WILLIAMSON NEW SUPERSTAR OF THE STATE LEAGUE

IN SOCCER there is no more exciting sight than a player running towards a defender and flashing by him. Phil Williamson (the Willamenia Wippet) has the most electric pack I have ever seen in the same League this year. With his skill and speed there is no reason why he can't make himself a reputation as a superstar next season. After all this is what the fans pay to see.

George Cross and Hakoah St Kilda are two of the many clubs interested in signing Prahran Slavia's ball of fire Bobby Kent — Bobby

is now a regular in the Victorian team and almost a certainty to play against the Polish team in the new year friendly match.

Bobby confirmed he had been approached by clubs, but refused to make any more comment.

BEST TEAM

Now that the season is over and the champions and cup winners are decided, I'd like to take a look back over the past season and talk about some of the good and bad.

Without doubt the best team we faced was Hellas, who rightly won the title — they were also the only team to do the double on us the first game at Olympic Park. Although the one and only goal was a gift they well deserved the victory but only in the second half after our midfield collapsed. The return match at Middle Park, well I'd rather not comment on the two goals we gave to Kokinos. Though it only needed one of our out of form forwards to take his chances in the first half and the scoreline I'm sure would have looked very different as we had 70 per cent of the play.

The best individual performance I saw was by George Cross' Johnny Gardiner. Johnny is a versatile player, having played in defence, midfield and attack for the Reds against Hakoah at Middle Park. He impressed me tremendously. A few more like him and Victoria and Tony Boggi would both go on to better things.

My biggest disappointment was our totally inept displays against J.U.S.T. and Hellas. We had to win both of those games to have a chance at the League we were very confident of beating J.U.S.T. having beaten them the previous week 2-0. But as you well know we were too amateurish in our approach to the game and were easily beaten. **THE MOST DISAPPOINTING TEAM**

Well you could take your pick of Hakoah, Juventus, Melbourne, Polonia and Slavia whom at the beginning of the season promised so much but in the end gave so little.

CLAYTON S.C. PRESENTATION

Pitrone's Reception Rooms rang with the happy voices of Clayton Soccer Club's players, officials and supporters, last Friday night.

The club hadn't won any honours, but it is a happy club and the fact of missing out on promotion when it seemed almost certain, did nothing to dampen the enthusiastic enjoyment of the annual dinner.

Oakleigh Council have laid out a new pitch and built up to date dressing accommodation for Clayton Soccer Club.

With the junior explosion at Clayton, more playing pitches are required by the club to accommodate them and reassurance was given by Cr. Reg Harris, that this

would be attended to.

Cr. Ron Pohlmer, chairman of Parks and Gardens, and Mrs. Pohlmer were present along with Cr. and Mrs. Harris and Mr. Howard Clay at the Oakleigh Council's Engineers' Department.

The hall had a gathering of close to 200

guests and in the course of the evening, the following awards were made.

Senior Team Best and Fairest, Vince Preston; Runner-up, Ron Ryan.

Reserve Team Best and Fairest, Gerry Moran; Runner-up, Liam O'Kelly.

Third's Team Best and Fairest, Joe Eckersley; Runner-up, Tom Hunter. Colin Reid was awarded the trophy for being the best junior playing in senior Soccer.

Gerry Blaedell, who has done a first class job in goal for the seniors, received the Most Improved Players award.

Joe Eckersley, winner of the third team Best and Fairest award, is better known for his tremendous work with Clayton's Junior set up. As secretary of the juniors, trainer-coach of the under 11s and supervisor of all junior activities, his value to the club cannot be overstated.

President Ian McCulloch said that it had been a very successful year at Clayton in all ways, save the promotion battle, and he hoped 1975 would see that remedied.

BY

GEORGE YELLAND



Oakleigh Councillor Teg Harris presents Vince Preston with the Clayton Soccer Club's senior Best and Fairest Award for 1974.



Gerry Moran collects the Reserves Best and Fairest Trophy for 1974, from Cr. Reg Harris, at the Clayton S.C. presentations Dinner Dance.



Colin Reid receives the award for best junior in Senior Soccer, for Clayton S.C., from Chairman of the Public Works Committee of Oakleigh Council, Cr. Reg Harris.

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SOCCER WEEK PREVIEW

by JOHN MARTIN

ABOUT 12,000 fans have seen the first two rounds of the State League Cup and there is sure to be an extra big crowd at Middle Park on Sunday for the clash between South Melbourne Hellas and Fitzroy United Alexander, at 3.30 p.m.

It will be an interesting game. Fitzroy's committee have invested in new coach Tony Boggi to give them the honors they've been seaching for for years — a championship, Cup or trophy of some kind.

On Sunday when the cunning of Boggi is pitted against the young skill of Hellas coach Johnny Margaretis and his team of talented players, the result will be a needle match which should have all the hallmarks of a top-class game.

Hellas played badly last Sunday against Footscray JUST. I've never seen them play so poorly. They could have stayed on the field for another

hour after full time and still not found the net. They looked like a tired team — just like Footscray JUST were the previous week when they were thrashed 6-1 by Alexander.

Hellas will be battling to beat Alexander this week. The return of Peter Bourne will add more stability to the side which badly lacked strength in the middle last Sunday. Ulysses Kokkinos was

weak and seems played out and needs to be rested.

Marko Fode had a bad day in goal last week. He seemed to go the wrong way every time the JUST forwards had a shot at goal. It's not like Marko to miss easy shots and he'll have to be at his best when the Boggi shooting machine of Frank Donachie, George Gillan, Pat Bannon and Ian Gibson get going on Sunday.

The Alexander side are a complete new outfit. All they need is a top-class goalie to make them into championship material for 1975.

I wouldn't be surprised if a first-class State League keeper joins them within in the few weeks. The Alexander committee are keeping their lips sealed but I know

they have a top keeper lined up to replace Chris Economides who has let the side down on so many occasions.

It's not Chris' fault. He's just not good enough to keep a State League goal. Alexander had the game won last Sunday but it was the poor goalkeeping which cost them the game.

If only a first-class man had been between the sticks it would have taken more than Johnny Gardiner and Paul Murphy to beat the Greek side.

I'm not taking anything away from the great game George Cross played to earn a 3-3 draw. The Cross deserved to share the points because they put on a brilliant display. But the refereeing left something to be desired. It certainly wasn't the whistleman's best game.

Hellas will be lucky to draw with Alexander if they played the same type of game they did against JUST. The South Melbourne side looked tired and weary and badly need a rest from the weekly grind of soccer.

In fact all the teams appear to be overplayed and many will be pleased

when the season ends in a couple of weeks.

Fitzroy will know what they have to face next season when they line up in front of Hellas. What's more important, Boggi will know what he's up against.

If he succeeds on Sunday you can bet your last dollar that the powerful Hellas set-up will be recruiting some more top-class talent for season '75. One man who is sure to join their ranks is Jimmy MacKay, from Sydney. Others will be enlisted too, but it all depends on how things go on Sunday.

My tip is Alexander will toss Hellas in this big occasion match mainly because Boggi has knitted the side into a more professional unit with a more professional approach to the game.

The club has the talent. All it needed was a smart man at the helm. Now they've got him and now they expect results. Mr Boggi's reputation is on the line. His unhappy days with Juventus are far behind.

GEORGE CROSS played so well last week that they must be a good thing to

toss Footscray JUST in the early game at 1.45 p.m. But JUST too have produced a miracle — dropping their World Cup goalie, Jimmy Milisavljevic, and replacing him with a reserve, Milan Cvijic (I don't know which name is easier to pronounce!)

JUST made good use of veteran Frank Micic in attack early in the game then he played his usual midfield role but still came up front for the final assault when necessary.

JUST were a complete new side both in appearance and in action. Fans were amazed to see Milisavljevic playing as a centre half back. What shocked most was the brilliant display of the reserve keeper and the great defence of Andy Kazi and former Frankston defender, Alan Parrott.

My namesake John Martin did a great job in breaking up the Hellas attacks. Dan Zoraja had one of his best days in weeks when he attacked for most of the game and had a hand in scoring one of the goals late in the first half.

Johnny Gardiner is sure to be used as a striker again because he

was so successful against Alexander. He will be backed up by Paul Murphy and Frank McArdle.

There won't be much in this game. It's a vital one for both teams as they both have 2 points each and desperately need another two to make the finals. It's a fight to the death for both. On paper it looks another real Cup-tie affair.

I think George Cross will take this one. They have the fighting spirit and they can turn it on when it is required. It's certainly needed on Sunday — and that's why I give them my vote to take the two points.



STICKY SITUATION AT SOCCER HOUSE

SOME very interesting decisions will be made within the next few days which could change the entire set-up of the Victorian Soccer Federation.

It is known that the Metropolitan League is not happy with its small representation on the VSF board of management.

They will be looking for more representatives. We know they are keen to have three men look after their interests and we believe they will get what they want.

It looks as if Mr John Barclay and Mr Les Shorrock will be sitting at Soccer House fighting for the Metro cause.

But this will no doubt cause a stir in some circles because Mr Shorrock is now a representative (full-time) with the Australian Soccer Pools Pty Ltd.

It has been the federation's policy not to have men representing Pools companies on their Board. Readers will recall this is why Mr John Gorton (Littlewoods representative in Melbourne) stepped down.

What then will happen to Mr Shorrock? Will he be asked to step down too?

Also some readers may already know that Mr Shorrock writes for a suburban newspaper group and again, the federation frowns on Board members who write for newspapers or communicate with the Press.

There has been some unrest among top-ranking federation men that since Vernons moved into Melbourne and introduced the Pools, they have been ignored.

They claim the Pools people were very keen to talk to them before they got the OK from the State government to run the Pools, but now they have what they want, they show no interest in them at all.

Perhaps Mr Shorrock's move to the VSF board is one way the Pools people feel they can keep in touch with the soccer set-up in Victoria.

There has also been considerable comment among soccer people that the new Pools company appointed a footy man, Harry Beitzel, to be their spokesman.

Some claim that it is bad enough having most of the profit from the Pools going towards the promotion of the other code within rubbing salt into the wound!

There is no doubt if Mr Shorrock is allowed to remain in Soccer House then Mr John Gorton will have to return. Gorton is sure to come back through his old club,

Ringwood City Wilhelmina.

Gorton's Pools company, Littlewoods, have been busy during the past few weeks telling the Australian public they are the biggest Pools company in the world and that they pay out the biggest prize money. They have been doing this through a public relations man who is resident in Sydney.

Why are Littlewoods doing this? It is obvious they intend to come to Australia and give Vernons some opposition.

When? We guess they will set up business in Sydney where soccer is much stronger than in Melbourne. We also believe they will try to do a deal with the NSW government.

No matter what happens, success is not yet assured in the Pools business in this country. For one thing, the foreign language newspapers are indignant because they have been neglected by the Australian Soccer Pools company as an advertising medium.

They claim — and rightly so — that all their readers are Pools-minded people and are ready-made clients. But they haven't received any advertising from the new company.

It appears there is much to be done to make soccer people happy in Victoria. Not only the Metropolitan League representatives but a lot of others who have no direct interest in the game.

the school.

Each player played a maximum of 20 hours and the basketball courts in the school grounds were used during the day. At night, the game was carried on in the school gym.

Bayswater secretary, John Halford, gave Soccer Week the news

and said that several Bayswater S.C. boys, including his son Ivor, participated in the event.

The lads deserved the success which came their way, for enterprise and the unselfish way they worked for such a worthwhile cause.



FERNTREE GULLY HIGH SCHOOL SOCCERTHON

Last Tuesday morning, at 9 a.m., about 30 boys of the Ferntree Gully High School started a "Soccerthon".

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SYDNEY SOCCER SCENE

BY JACK DANIELS AND OSCAR BROWN

IT'S HOLIDAY TIME

Sydney columnists Jack Daniels and Oscar Brown will now be off on a four week vacation.

Our two scribes will be lazing in the sun on Hayman Island on the Great Barrier Reef for the next few weeks to, as Jack Daniels says — "to get away from it all and refresh ourselves for the season ahead — also to get away from the mumbblings and bumbblings of that mug Villiers down there in Victorian Victoria!"

Both Daniels and Brown will be back on duty with Soccer Week in four weeks time.

To stand in for them during their holiday period will be two guest Sydney correspondents Pat O'Brian and Joe Smith, who will continue to bring you the news and views from old Sydney Town.

WANTED! "Wee" Jimmy Rooney

By JACK DANIELS

Could the scintillating sophisticated style of the best ball player and the supreme midfielder in Australia be a delight of the past?

Indeed it could if a number of the top English and Scottish clubs have their way!

For the latest player to receive overseas attention is the Socceroos midfield magician "Wee" Jimmy Rooney.

Among other clubs the London based first division club Queens Park Rangers and the Scottish club Dundee are "very interested" in talking to and eventually securing the services of the little maestro.

Rooney will be off to Britain for a "holiday" as he terms it on November 10 and the first thing that he will do when he sets foot on the Old Dart is to talk to Queens Park Rangers manager Dave Sexton in London.

Rooney will spend a few days with his brother in London on his arrival before journeying up to Scotland.

His brother lives near Queens Park Rangers ground at Shepherds Bush in West London.

When he goes up to Scotland to stay with his parents he will train with Dundee.

It is not surprising that the top European clubs have again renewed their interest in Rooney.

(It is to be remembered that during the World Cup warm-up campaign in Switzerland a number of Swiss first division clubs would have sold their grandstands to sign him!)

He is one of the very few players in Australia that has the skill and ability to compete with the top British and European professionals.

Adrian Alston was another player endowed with this skill and just look how he is doing in the

English first division! Many will state that Rooney is too small to make the grade in the hustle and bustle of top British football, but this is utter nonsense.

Rooney is built on the same lines as the great Leeds schemer John Giles and is a player in the same mould as Giles.

Alan Ball is another player in this mould and you can go through most of the British teams and almost every one of them has a small ball playing midfielder such as Jimmy Rooney.

Everything points to Rooney making a big success overseas. At 26 years of age he is reaching maturity where he will be at his strongest peak to play football.

As a trainer there is none finer and this is one of the reasons why he can maintain the incredible workrate on the field.

He can also shoot very well and his average of a near goal a game in Apia's last few matches stands up for this.

Also who can forget his magnificent goal against Santos a few years ago when even the great Pele stood still and clapped the effort.

Australian Soccer and the new Socceroos need Rooney for the 1978 World Cup bid in Argentina.

However the pride in performance and deep down wish of every player to make the big time could be a factor that might make Jimmy Rooney accept an English offer.

Although he has still another year of his

COACHES UNDER QUESTION MARKS ???

By JACK DANIELS

The coaching positions of many of the Sydney first division clubs again poses many question marks at this time of the year.

There will be of course be the usual merry go round and all change of coaches that is significant with the game not only here in Australia but all over the world as was shown in England earlier this month when five managers got the chop.

So with the guessing game going on as to who will be the relevant club bosses let's have a look at the Sydney scene as decisions within clubs are being made.

HAKOAH — Their present manager coach David MacLaren has agreed to sign another three year contract with the club and is expected to return from his English holiday next month to carry on his good work with the Bondi based club.

However Hakoah have terminated their agreement with their assistant coach Eddie Swartz.

ST GEORGE — New appointments have put players John Warren and Manfred Schaefer in control of the proceedings at Saints. Warren has been appointed general manager of the club and Schaefer as the coach.

Both are firm friends, but the coaching and running of football teams at times is enough to strain even the firmest of friendship. If they get away to a good start and there is no reason why they shouldn't this would be a successful partnership for Saints.

APIA — coaching position vacant on the

resignation of manager coach Tom Anderson. Assistant coach Phil Botallico has stated that he does not want to follow in Anderson's shoes and will be happy to remain assistant coach. Rale Rasic's name has been linked with the club and it will not be known until he returns from overseas on November 1 what his views on this. Former player George Blues who retired last season is said to be keen to take on the job but the majority of the Apia players have made it clear that they have no wishes to play under Blues and he would have no chance of success under this feeling in the dressing room.

WESTS — Present coach Les Scheinflug in control and in the process of rebuilding for next season.

PAN HELLENIC — Rale Rasic is expected to remain in control but more will be known when he returns from overseas on November 1. New committee which will be appointed in the coming weeks could have a big say in the matter.

SAFEGWAY UNITED — New coach needed as Socceroo captain Peter Wilson has stated he has no desire to carry on as player-coach next season. One person who is already linked with the job is former St George manager-coach Mike Johnson.

MARCONI — New coach needed and a number of games have already been linked with

the position. Favorite seems to be former Apia boss Tom Anderson, but Anderson denies that he is interested in any job and states that he will not coach next year. Others are former Saints boss Mike Johnson and Hakoah's reserve team boss Eddie Swartz.

SUTHERLAND — Present coach Jimmy Livingstone will continue and under their limited budget will concentrate on developing local talent.

YUGAL-PRAGUE — Present coach Steve Daveski is expected to remain in control although anything could happen here!

CROATIA — Present coach Rex Foster stated after their Rothmans Cup win that he was finished with the club, but a change of events has made him reconsider and it looks as if he will be in charge for another term at Croatia.

GRANVILLE — the newcomers to the first division have advertised for a coach. Mike Jones the coach who brought them up from the second division has adamantly stated that he will not apply for the job as he thought he should have had it automatically. What happens is in the lap of the gods!

AUBURN — Present coach Joe Marston has been asked to stay and carry on, but it is widely known that Marston is on the lookout for another club. In all probability Marston will stay with Auburn.

Aspirations with Apia seem to have been given the veto with the players in the first team squad already giving him a vote of no confidence before any selection has been made by the Apia committee.

SOCCER BRIGHTER 1975

By OSCAR BROWN

Sydney Soccer is heading for a very lucrative and bright season in 1975.

This was forecast after a very successful meeting between the Sydney club presidents and secretaries and the New South Wales Federation executive last Wednesday night.

The New South Wales McCann tabled a series of dynamic President Peter proposals that were



Former Apia player, George Blues, who's coaching aspirations with Apia seem to have been given the veto with the players in the first team squad already giving him a vote of no confidence before any selection has been made by the Apia committee.

The magical Jimmy Rooney (left) at his best, scoring against St. George at the Sports Ground last season. Rooney could soon be lost to Australian Soccer if the English clubs have their way.



unanimously accepted by the clubs to a man.

The "McCann Plan" now seems certain to be adopted at a special general meeting to be held in Sydney in December.

One of the biggest innovations of the meeting was the decision to sanction guest appearances by overseas stars in club matches at the start of the season.

These overseas stars will be permitted to play a six-week period in the first half of the premiership competition. The second half would be excluded so that the competitive element of the premiership would not be upset as the season approached its climax.

This is a very wise decision and one that is certain to boost the gates and get more fans coming to watch soccer.

Overseas stars such as Denis Law, Bobby Moore, and all the top line internationals will certainly be induced to come for a six-week period to Sydney in the British off-season. At present they make a pilgrimage to South Africa to play in their off-season and now they will come to Australia.

The clubs also agreed to support a restriction of imported players which will give the local born youngsters a better chance of breaking through into the big-time.

Other important decisions taken were that one grade will be cut out, leaving reserve grade with a maximum of five players over 21 years of age, and this will most probably boost the standard of the second and third division clubs.

Referee's fees for first division will increase from \$22.50 to \$40 in lieu of the modest \$24 sought by the referees in an attempt to improve the standard of refereeing.

Sponsorship will be

sought and gained, for both the premiership and a match of the day systems.

The match of the day will in most probability be played at the Sydney Sports Ground every Sunday afternoon.

It was also agreed to employ a public relations consultant to handle the publicity instead of leaving the publicity to a committee.

Agreement was also reached in principle for the NSW amateur organisation to be offered the inter-suburban competitions, together with administrative assistance.

Club affiliation fees will also be increased so that basic administration costs will be met, leaving tour matches as money-spinners for wider promotion of the sport.

The reduction of the premiership from 12 to 10 clubs was reviewed but no decision was made.

Soccer will have Ampol and Rothmans as sponsors of two competitions and needs only a sponsor for the winter premiership.

Moves in this direction are now well in hand and an announcement on this will be made at an early date.

All the above matters will be clearly defined and appropriate legislation will be taken at the meeting in December.

These latest moves show that 1975 will indeed be a bumper year for NSW Soccer and with no calls from the national team, the standard of play in the state would even spiral higher than it is at present.

New South Wales leads the way in Soccer in Australia and has done for a very long time — these latest moves will make sure that this leadership continues for a very long time to come.

NEWS & VIEWS FROM INSIDE

By OSCAR BROWN

Marconi's two Irish stars Billy Sinclair and Billy Millen want to leave the club and move to greener pastures. Marconi have told the two Irish Rovers that they will not stand in their way and will listen to offers.

Marconi's World Cup star Ray Richards does not want to continue as player-coach of the club but fancies the job of general manager the same position that his fellow Socceroo John Warren now holds at Saints.

The transfer chase of the two Sutherland stars Col Bennett and Alan Maher continues with a number of clubs such as Apia, Marconi and Wests joining in the hunt. It could be however that Apia will win out in a package deal that will cost them a cool \$12,000.

St George have signed veteran Canterbury goalkeeper Peter Fuzes as a standby to Jim Frazer. Fuzes who has served with Hakoah, Apia and Canterbury played for Australia against the Scottish touring team a few years ago.

Apia's surprise, transfer listed goalkeeper John Kennedy could



Former Hakoah, Apia and Canterbury goalkeeper, Peter Fuzes, who has been given a new lease of life by St. George who signed him last week as a deputy to former international Jim Fraser.

BRIAN LE FEVRE VERY POPULAR

By JACK DANIELS

The top administrator in Australian Soccer is without doubt the popular Australian Soccer Federation secretary Brian Le Fevre.

Le Fevre who is now in his fifth year with the ASF has a job that is one of the most difficult in any code of sport in Australia.

For let's face it, as the secretary of the ASF he has to liaison with Soccer administrators throughout the Commonwealth which, knowing Soccer administrators, not only in this country but all over the world, is one helluva job!

But Le Fevre, in his own inimitable and unflappable style, copes magnificently and he is the epitome of efficiency as he runs a tight ship from his nerve centre in Sydney.

As head of the Australian Soccer Federation secretariat, Brian Le Fevre has only a staff of two girls working under him, which in itself is just ridiculous, as a larger staff is needed for the work in hand.

Also the offices at the King Street Headquarters are too small and outdated for the ever increasing business of administrating Australian Soccer.

However, Le Fevre carries on undaunted and overcomes the well known deficiencies with a cheerful smile and a happy disposition.

His organisation during Australia's leadup and during the World Cup campaign is one that must be congratulated.

In this the first venture into the big-time, Le Fevre handled the situation as if Australia had been a top Soccer nation for a million years.

During the World Cup finals in Germany, both FIFA and overseas administrators were generous with their praise of the work of Le Fevre.

Brian Le Fevre is also a very popular figure with the media and his public relations with journalists and commentators is first class.

With Argentina and the 1978 Cup final series now the target for the Socceroos, Brian Le Fevre already has plans for a fine preparation for the nation's team well in hand and under control.

The Australian Soccer Federation is indeed very fortunate to have such a man with the calibre of Brian Le Fevre as secretary and as long as he is in control of the secretariat, the future should hold no worries.



Popular Australian Soccer Federation secretary Brian Le Fevre (second from left) with Sydney Daily Mirror journalist Tom Anderson (left), Manchester City manager Tony Book (second right) and Manchester City star Alan Oaks (right) during an overseas visit.

been a few months in Sydney since he signed from Alexander and the Leichhardt club have not really given him time to settle down in his new surroundings.

One veteran Sydney journalist who keeps falling off chairs at functions when he had one too many may have his problem eradicated next year. No, they are not going to cut off his grog — they are going to have a moving chair on wheels on hand at all occasions where this fellow attends, so that the chair can move with his sways!

Apia's surprise fee-transfer listed utility

player Ian McGovern is interesting Sutherland and Croatia who are both bidding for his services, and Croatia are also interested in Apia's young fullback Steve Deller transfer listed at \$500.

An interesting transfer listing by St George is that of striker Jimmy Herron. Herron is one of the best and most effective strikers in Sydney and should have no trouble in finding a club.

News has it that Canterbury goalkeeper Lester Forrester will be joining Pan Hellenic in the near future. Forrester is potentially a fine keeper and could prove a good buy for the Greeks.

Word has it that a

Soccer "rag" (it would be hard to call it a newspaper) that used to publish in Sydney on green paper has hit hard times. This could be true as some of the rubbish printed by this "rag" has led to the paper being called the "comic cuts" by the majority of the Sydney Soccer fans!

Socceroo captain Peter Wilson is on the wanted list of a leading English first division club who will make a big bid for this star in a few days time. However it seems unlikely that Wilson will leave Australia where he has just taken up a new post as sales manager for the Alan Barton company in Wollongong selling Honda motor cycles and Honda cars.

JOURNALIST FRED VILLIERS A UNIQUE COMMODITY

By JACK DANIELS

Melbourne journalist Fred Villiers is somewhat of a unique commodity.

As an individual little old Freddie is a charming guy although somewhat of a Victorian square.

As a writer he puts words together real well and he is quite an authority on this wonderful game of Soccer.

In fact Freddie is a chap I have great pleasure in sometimes calling my mate and I hope to do so until they carry me out in that old pine box!

However, I must admit that there is just one irritable aspect of dear old Fred that really gets my dander up and that is he is just too much of a parochial Victorian!

For my poor old mate Fred, the sun rises and sets and only shines all of the time in the vicinity of that dirty polluted old marsh they call the Yarra!

In fact it's this ultra isolationist and "leave us alone we're alright, Jack" view that Freddie baby has recently adopted that has got myself and all his Sydney mates worried to death about his mental condition.

In fact an old mate of ours, Bluey McGoolley said to me only yesterday, he thought that Freddie was getting a bit jaded and overtired by the way he was rambling on.

And the reason for this was Fred's article in his Sunday paper, The Observer or The Observor or whatever they call it down there in Melbourne, in which he wrote that Victoria did not want to get tied up with New South Wales in any way.

Well, well, well, what a ridiculous statement to make.

OK, so Melbourne Soccer is going well at the moment, and I congratulate their hard working officials for getting the code into this position.

But to say that you don't want any part of NSW is a very brash and remarkable statement to make.

For let's face it, the main reason their football is going well is a result of the starting of the Soccer pools.

And how long will that last? Only time will tell — let's hope for the sake of the code it is forever.

But because of this new found success, to become isolationists and to become complacent with your lot is courting disaster.

Surely the next step is to progress and look for

the next step forward to raise the standard of the game and draw more paying customers through the gates.

For let's face it, these paying customers will stop going to the games if the standard stagnates and also if the standard does not improve I'm sure that many of the sponsors will have second thoughts of putting their dough in.

And surely, the best way to raise the standard of football in Australia is to start a national league with the best players in the Commonwealth playing against each other, week in and week out.

As far as the Sydney administrators are concerned, well they have had a hard time of it this year what with the World Cup and the weather.

Remember, apart from the three Victorians Branko Buljevic, Jim Milisaljevic and Jack Reilly, all the World Cup squad were from Sydney clubs and this caused a major upheaval in the Sydney competition. (By the way, dear old Freddie will probably never forget until the day he passes away that only three Victorians played in the World Cup finals in Germany!)

And what's more, there probably will not be many other — if that many — Victorians in the next World Cup squad, judging by the present standard of play between Sydney and Melbourne!

Sydney is just that far ahead and that more professional compared with Melbourne, it's just not true!

So to dear old Freddie Villiers, and his grey beard and my good friends in the Victorian Federation who have become isolationists by their own making, please wake up before it is too late — remember what has happened to Queensland under that supreme isolationist Bjelke Peterson!

Come out and join the strength (NSW of course) and improve your football.

And a final note to dear old dottering Fred — take it easy, pal, don't overdo it, remember you have that blood pressure problem from sucking too many wine gums and Fred, remember the true proverb written by the imminent Australian poet Strop Hogan — "If you can't beat 'em baby, join 'em!"



This is a picture of an ostrich — an animal that buries its head in the ground when danger shows and when it wants to become isolated. Fred Villiers and his Victorian mates please take note!

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SOCCER GOSSIP

SOCCER is really kicking on in Bendigo. Four years ago they didn't have a team in the district today they have a first-class league and hope to start a second division next season. This news was given to VSF secretary-manager George Wallace by Bendigo League secretary Ian Platt at the league's annual presentation night at Brolgar Hotel, Lake Eppalock last Friday night.

SOCCER POOLS were a great success at their first start last week-end. A pools official said the response was overwhelming. The amount invested was far greater than they had anticipated. And the 14 draws (11 score draws) should at least ensure a winner in Australia.

IT WAS good to see the Arsenal returning to winning form in English first division last Saturday. They beat West Ham United 3-0. No doubt this will please Victoria's former president Sir David Hill-Wood who is now living in London. On a recent visit to Australia he said he was very disappointed with the Arsenal this season. Sir David's family have been associated with the club for years. His brother is chairman of the Arsenal.

LIVERPOOL, the English favorites for title honors this season, have moved to a one-point lead over Manchester City in Division One. Liverpool have 21 points and Manchester have 20.

IN SCOTLAND, Celtic won the Scottish League Cup for the sixth time in eleven years by beating Hibernian 6-3 at Hampden Park. Celtic's win included a hat-trick by Dixie Deans.

FOOTSCRAY JUST shocked South Melbourne Hellas — and their fans — when they fielded Jimmy Milisavljevic, the World Cup reserve goalkeeper, as a centre back at Middle Park, on Sunday. The move paid off too. They beat Hellas 2-0 in a great performance with reserve keeper Milan Cvijic outstanding. Milisavljevic, a former Aussie Rules player, often wanted to pick the ball up and showed the fans how to fall when being tackled strongly. On one occasion he was charged and when on the ball rolled over and was up on his feet in seconds. JUST skipper Frank Micic, the veteran of the side, is still one of the best players in State League. His goal — a fine header — came from a free kick taken by international winger Branko Buljevic. The ball, headed into the corner of the net, com-

pletely deceived goalie Marko Fode — a keeper who rarely misses a shot. The second goal came up from a super curving shot — the typical Pele "banana" kick — from Dan Zoraja. It was a free kick which again Fode misjudged. It was not Fode's day and it certainly wasn't a day for Hellas, the Dockerty Cup and State League champions.

Early Hellas fans laughed off the headline in the Sunday Observer which read "Beware of JUST". As JUST had been beaten 6-1 the previous week by Alexander they felt JUST would be a walkover. But they were not.

If Hellas wish to play in the final, they will have to pull out all stops this week-end against Alexander as Tony Boggi, their new coach, has got this team working like a machine which is well oiled.

ARSENAL made their start to recover from their slump when they beat West Ham 3-0 in English first division on Saturday. They had played 12 games without a win.

The Arsenal's win was the first defeat for West Ham in eight league games and has given the Gunners' supporters some heart for the future. It now looks as if Arsenal will climb from the bottom of the league and save themselves from relegation. At this stage, Luton Town — the team with Australian striker Adrian Alston in their side — is one of the early bets to go down to second division at the end of the season.

JIM ARMSTRONG (Hellas) still leads the goalscorers' list after the league, and Cup matches, with 25 goals. Paul Murphy (George Cross) is on 23, with two Alexander players Frank Donachie 14, and George Gillan 13 in second and third places respectively. They are followed by Frank Micic (JUST), Dan Zoraja (JUST) and Ulysses Kokkinos (Hellas) all on 13. George Gibson (Alexander) has 12 with Bobby Kent (Slavia) and Mike Lynn (Ringwood City) on 11.

FITZROY UNITED ALEXANDER head the

State League Cup ladder with 3 points having the best goal average of 9 goals for and 4 against. Second is George Cross with 2 points (4 goals for and 4 goals against), with Footscray JUST also on 2 points (3 goals for and 6 goals against). Hellas are on the bottom with 1 point and a goal average of (1 goal for and 3 against).

The top two will play off in the Cup final at Middle Park on Sunday, November 3.

DIXIE DEANS scored a hat-trick for Celtic in their 6-3 win over Hibernian in the Scottish League Cup at Hampden Park, on Saturday. It was Celtic's sixth league cup in eleven years.

THERE were 14 draws in the opening round of the Australian Soccer Pools coupon on Saturday. But there were only eleven score draws — the other three were nil-nil draws. The score draws were made up of nine in the English league (four score draws in Division One and four in Division Three) and there were two in the Scottish league. There were three postponed matches — all in the Scottish League. They were Kilmarnock v Hibernian, Partic Thistle v Celtic and Queens Park v Meadowbank Thistle — numbers 49, 50 and 57 on the Pools coupon.

HERE is a list of eight possible score draws for next week's Pools coupons — (Pools numbers in brackets) 1 Arsenal v Wolves, 2 Birmingham v Chelsea, 4 Ipswich v Liverpool, 14 Bristol Rovers v Southampton, 15 Cardiff v Sunderland, 16 Fulham v Aston Villa, 28 Halifax v Preston, 47 Motherwell v Dunfermline.

WELL PLAYED Beaumaris High School! In a great exhibition of soccer last week they beat Cheltenham High School 3-2 in a thrilling Frisian Cup game.

THE annual meeting of the Victorian Soccer Federation was a pleasant affair — well almost! Members were certainly happy with the performance of the board of management last year. Once again the federation made a profit of \$10,000 — and that's what the game is all about! Considering the increases in wages for the Soccer House staff and donations to the juniors and schools without raising affiliation fees, this is no mean achievement.

The board was also successful in other areas like TV sponsorship and the development of juniors. All in all, the federation can be proud of its organisation, especially the leadership of Mr Michael Weinstein, its chairman, who is directly responsible for the financial success of the VSF.

IF ALF GARNETT, the man you see on TV advertising the new Pools, would find out how confused some people were last week over their Pools entries, he would stop laughing.

We received complaints from hundreds of Australians that the coupons were too complicated and that they should be simplified. It would pay the Pools publicity department to explain them a little better.

GOLDEN CITY, the Bendigo League champions, will play Frankston Pines, at Frankston Pines ground, on Saturday, November 2 and Sunday, November 3. First game on both days starts at 2 p.m.

These two games should be well worth the visit to Frankston to see. Bendigo League have often said they would like to play in the big time in Melbourne. We will be able to judge the standard by their performance in these games.

KEN PATTERSON, George Cross coach, is adamant that the Tribunal must make a decision on the Ian Marshall (Hellas) send-off during the six-a-side tournament at Frankston. He said it is ridiculous not to give a decision in this case.

TONY BOGGI, Fitzroy United Alexander's new coach, is not happy with his position on the State League Cup ladder even though his team is on top. Other teams can score more goals, he says, and put his side out.

"We are in a reasonable position. I don't think we played too badly against George Cross. I wasn't too happy with the last goal. There was a lot of fouling in the box and the goal was scored.

"We need a couple of more players next year and I think we'll have a great side. Next year will be our year," said Tony.

JAUN SCHWANNER, former national coach of Chile and former Melbourne club coach, said in all the years he had been a coach, he had

never seen a World Cup goalie playing as a centre back. He was referring to Jimmy Milisavljevic, of JUST, in his game against Hellas on Sunday.

THERE have been five applications for the new coaching job of Hakoah St Kilda club for next season.

SANDY HENDERSON, Hakoah's reserve coach, is off to Scotland for six weeks at Christmas to look for some new talent for the St Kilda club.

THERE is no doubt the GPO are doing a fine job with their telephone sports service in reading out the British soccer results each week-end. But they need educating. This is one for the Public Relations Department. Please, and we say please again, read the results of the British games out in Pools coupon order. Only then will the GPO be giving a real service — the service which the public desires!

GEELONG club, in the Provisional League, have set the pace as a Pools agent. They topped all soccer clubs last weekend and we understand they have a man employed full-time as a Pools collector. He is Norman Cooper, from Blackpool, in England.

The club have tackled the Pools business in a professional way and they are making real money for their club as a Pools agency. It augurs well for the prospects of Geelong being promoted to the Metropolitan League next season — something that is badly needed in the Geelong area to help lift soccer there.

MR P. J. O'CONNOR, SM, chairman of the Soccer Tribunal, is in his 13th year in the job. The young-looking Mr O'Connor, who is 75, has done a fantastic job.

When he first joined soccer the game was very dirty but he's cleaned up the game and is often seen watching matches at Middle Park and Olympic Park. An Australian, who lives in Sandringham, he has taken to soccer like a duck takes to water.

In all the 13 years Mr O'Connor has been chairman of the State League tribunal, he has kept records of all the cases he has handled.

He is a man soccer can feel proud of for the amount of work he has put into the sport. The game needs more men like him at the top.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE MORE NEWS FROM THE OTHER STATES, DROP US A LINE AT:

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ADVOCATE-NORCO FLOODLIGHT CUP SERIES

The cup is sponsored by Norco Batteries in conjunction with the Advocate newspaper. All games have been played on Devonport's home ground. The final promises to be a thriller. Burnie Spartans are led by ex-Australia and Sydney player Mike Denton and he has made a habit of scoring goals all season. Ulverstone have just appointed as Club Manager, Peter Goss from Victoria's Metro League club Frankston City, and set out on Thursday night's semi-final to prove that good standard soccer can be played in Tasmania.

It was announced during the week that a further League to be known as the North West League will be formed next season. New clubs Zeehan, Wynard and Penguin will be entering, and the League will be made up to strength by third teams from the Senior Clubs in Burnie, Devonport and Ulverstone. It is hoped that this will enable the new clubs to establish themselves before entering a Senior competition.

The overall plan would be the establishment of two Divisions of the Combined League with the thrills and disappointments of promotion and relegation. The First Division to cover the North and North West. The Second Division in two parts. One the new League from the North-West and the other formed from teams in the Launceston area. From this set up clubs could be joined together with teams from the Hobart area to form a Tasmania State League. These moves are a sure sign that the Australia wide growth of Soccer has seeped through here as well.

Ulverstone are proceeding with the construction of their own ground and it is expected that application of top soil and seeding will be done before the autumn. All being well the first game will be played in 1976, making Ulverstone the first club in Tasmania to own its own ground.

State premiers are Hobart-Croatia who defeated Devonport on a 5-1 aggregate. State reserve premiers are George Town who defeated Caledonians from Hobart. Losers Devonport have the consolation in being both Combined League champions and also Combined League Cup Winners.

A Combined League representative team will be playing in Melbourne during the weekend November 2-3. Games will be played against Keilor City and St. Albans. Interstate visitors to the North West early next year could be Frankston City.

Semi Final Results:
Tuesday, October 22: Burnie Spartans 2 (Denton, Greenveld), Launceston 0.
Thursday, October 24: Devonport 1 (MacDonald), Ulverstone 1 (Dollwer).
Ulverstone won on penalties.
Next week games at Valley Road Devonport, k.o. 7.45 p.m.
Minor Final for 3rd and 4th places.
Tuesday, October 29: Devonport v Launceston.
Grand Final:
Thursday, October 31: Burnie Spartans v Ulverstone.

Final League Tables 1974										
NORTH TASMANIA										
Devonport	22	17	3	2	96	15	37			
Ulverstone	22	16	1	5	84	24	33			
Juventus	22	15	3	4	62	26	33			
Burnie Spartans	22	14	3	5	92	37	31			
George Town	22	12	2	8	82	48	26			
Ravenswood	22	10	5	7	53	40	25			
Launceston	22	10	2	10	43	56	22			
Burnie Rovers	22	8	3	11	58	68	19			
Matric	22	7	3	12	39	81	17			
Croatia	22	3	6	13	23	71	12			
Rosebery	22	2	1	19	25	112	5			
St. Leonards	22	1	2	19	19	89	4			
RESERVES										
Georgetown	22	19	2	1	122	15	40			
Devonport	22	16	2	4	99	25	34			
Burnie Spartans	22	16	1	5	75	28	33			
Juventus	22	13	3	6	52	28	29			
Launceston	22	12	4	6	56	37	28			
Ravenswood	22	12	3	7	65	47	27			
Burnie Rovers	22	7	4	11	32	61	18			
Matric	22	8	2	12	49	74	18			
Ulverstone	22	7	2	13	42	59	16			
Rosebery	22	3	4	15	28	81	10			
Croatia	22	2	3	17	20	85	7			
St. Leonards	22	1	2	19	15	113	4			

GEORGE YELLAND GEORGE YELLAND REPORTS GEORGE YELLAND GEORGE YELLAND

VSF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

How is it possible for 100 men, basically dedicated to the promotion of the world's No 1 sport, to put on the pathetic performance we saw, in the first 30 minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the V.S.F. last Thursday night?

Colleague John Martin accurately forecast the path the meeting followed.

Neat, well presented reports were read and passed, followed by suggestions and proposals from the Metropolitan which were predictably knocked back by the State League; but the meeting went close to being the non-event of the year.

Prior to the A.G.M., the Metropolitan Committee had a meeting, at which it was pointed out that the Board of Management would not allow discussion on points the Met wanted to raise, because 28 days notice had not been given.

Copies of the new V.S.F. constitution are not generally available and the Metropolitan believed 21 days was all the notice required.

They therefore recommended to all Metropolitan clubs that they should not sign the register, depart and leave the A.G.M. without a quorum.

CONFUSION
Secretary George Wallace appealed to the Met to give heed to the chair and come to order.

The Met boys, in justifiably rebellious mood, were not disposed to participate unless their proposals were to be heard and discussed.

Finally wiser heads prevailed and the president agreed to hear any proposals which did not involve changes to constitution, and the meeting got underway at 8.32 p.m.

Reports were read, questions asked and finally the reports were accepted.

Mr. Andy Run, retiring vice-president, was made a patron of the V.S.F.

Mr. A. G. Culbard was made a Life Member, for services to juniors.

Mr. H. M. Knott, chairman of the Appeals Tribunal and legal adviser to the V.S.F. was also made a Life Member.

Pennants and Rothman's cheques were presented to winning clubs, and in a new departure, three top referees were presented with trophies to mark their retirement.

PRESIDENT'S APPEAL
Following all this, there was little time to discuss the points which the Metropolitan wished to bring forward.

The president appealed for unity of purpose and one or two proposals were discussed and met the usual fate of all Metropolitan suggestions.

They called for immediate abolition of the

iniquitous and illegal yellow registration form.

State League arguments for its retention were pathetically feeble, but, clustered together in one corner of the hall, they voted against the Met., in most cases with bowed heads (bowed in shame?).

It seemed that the arguments put forward by one State League club against the repeal of the permit player for the Industrial League, were made with tongue in cheek. One wonders what their reaction would be to a permit request by one or more of their State representatives.

Mr. John Barclay, chairman of the Metropolitan League Management Committee, said that because of the lateness of the hour, they would defer the remaining proposals.

WISDOM PREVAILS
A suggestion originating from Mr. Papasavas of South Melbourne Hellas, was taken up by the president, who assured the meeting that a committee of three from State League and three from the Met, with an independent chairman, would be set up, to deal with the Metropolitan proposals.

The meeting then broke up and whilst having a drink and a bite members settled into the usual groups, discussing the NON-happenings of the evening.

WHY! WHY! WHY!
Your correspondent, who loves the game as much as any of the gentlemen present at the meeting, came away still puzzled why men who love the game, work desperately hard for it and presumably have a common purpose, still manage to pull in opposite directions and hold back the very thing they are trying to promote.

Colleague John Martin suggested it was a tug of war between professionalism and amateurism.

The State League, presumably being the professionals and the Metropolitan the amateurs.

Most State League clubs are hanging on by the skin of their teeth. The bulk of them are nomadic, having no ground of their own. At least half of them draw crowds (?) barely sufficient to pay superficial expenses.

Club officials burn the midnight oil figuring ways of raising cash to pay their players.

Surely players are entertainers and should be paid according to their spectator drawing power. On that basis, few would receive more than \$10 per week.

In fact, if they were in the normal stream of commercial business, many would be retrained.

Back to this claim to professionalism.

Ask any referee who does the State League as well as the Met, which has the more professional approach.

How many State League clubs present the referee with team sheets, passports, ball, flags and fee in reasonable time before a match?

How many State League clubs present members of the press with team sheets, in order that they may be rung in before the start of the game? My experience is that you have to run round chasing that information, usually ending up by relying on the referee for it.

How often are team selections given to the publicity media Thursday night, as the VFL and VFA do? The State League has lost thousands of dollars free publicity by not following this avenue.

How many State League clubs bring out a weekly, or at least every home game, programme, like a large number of Metropolitan clubs do?

No, John, the only thing professional about State League is the ridiculous money paid out to players, 90 per cent of whom wouldn't get a game in the reserve team of most English League clubs.

METROPOLITAN PROFESSIONALISM
The brand of professionalism practices in the Met, seems to me to be more soundly based than in State League.

Most of these clubs are NOT amateur. Almost all First Division clubs and a sizable number of lower division pay players.

Difference is that they are paid a reasonable amount, related to their drawing power. The organisation of many of these clubs is remarkable. Attention to detail, ownership or secure tenancy of grounds and financial stability are keynotes.

Referee and linesmen are met by a club official and treated with the respect and consideration their office merits.

Consideration for the paying public is greater in many cases in the Met than in the State League and P.R. is infinitely better.

Oh no, John, there isn't that much difference between State League and Metropolitan, these days and the sooner they get together under one

banner, the Victorian Soccer League, the better it's going to be for our game.

I look forward to the time when the Victorian Soccer League will embrace clubs from Albion to Warrnambool and from Cann River to Mildura, when everybody in the game is fighting for a common purpose and the little minds that can't think beyond their own club, are gone forever. NEVER AGAIN

Along with many Soccer lovers, I was saddened by the puerile exhibition of insular bias, on Thursday night.

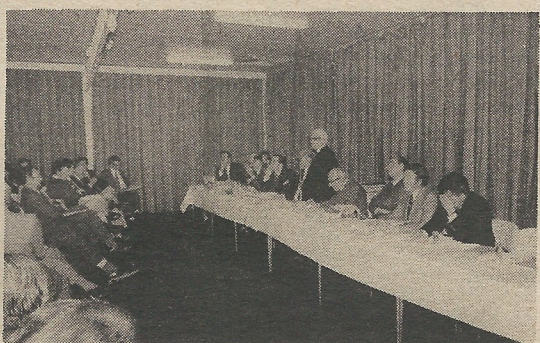
It must not happen again.

The two factions must get together for the common good.

State League has got to realise that the Metropolitan clubs are not a bunch of dummies and that many of their proposals are in the best interests of the game.

Metro must also realise that, despite years of frustration, progress comes with discussion and revolution only brings tragedy to all concerned.

Of course, the only real answer is to do away with State League and Metropolitan League, both terms are as phony as the yellow form, and unite in a Victorian Soccer League.



President Theo Marmaras addresses the annual general meeting of the V.S.F. at Olympia Rooms last Thursday.



Metropolitan League members in heated discussion before the V.S.F. Annual General Meeting.

BELOW AND RIGHT : Some of the Action Shots taken at the game at Middle Park, Footscray v Hellas.



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A very gallant Albion Rovers won the support of the spectators when they won their way through to the final of the Great 8 competition, but went down to a very good South Melbourne Hellas side with a penalty goal in extra time (result 2-1).

Albion brought a squad of only 11 players and one of their stars suffered a leg injury in the first match, to reach the final, after playing 3 games in the round robin, then knocking out a very good Juventus side in the semi by 2-1, was a remarkable achievement.

The great sportsmanship of Albion on the field is also to be com-

mended.

Hellas on the day were a great side, they did not concede a goal in their first 4 games and went into the final with a clean sheet.

Great credit must be given to their goalkeeper, one of the smallest boys on the field in all games.

Both (Lechie West Newport and Juventus) made the semis and played well throughout the competition.

The Attack Sports Cup will be held by Hellas till next October and then competed for again by the top 8 under 14 years teams for 1975.

As well as the Cup won by Hellas, each boy in Hellas' and Albion's team were presented with a guernsey from Attack Sport Wear Company.

(Thank you Attack Sports Wear for the sponsorship in this competition. It is greatly appreciated.)



Bewildered Secretary, George Wallace, sits at the table while State League and Board members argue, discuss and struggle to find a way out of the problem they themselves created.



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THE BAILY WITH LEN STONE

Why is British soccer losing so many spectators? How well do British clubs look after their paying customers? One of the multitude of answers is without a shadow of doubt in the inadequacy of the facilities at soccer grounds.

Sure, Highbury, Old Trafford and Stamford Bridge to name three stadiums are near faultless and the clubs in question are forever planning and actually making improvements to the facilities.

However far too many grounds lack cover, particularly on the terraces where you find the real core of loyalists. Then there is the all familiar pillar that blocks the view, the shallow terracing that makes it difficult to follow the action all over the ground.

Except for pop records blaring from the loud-speakers, there is seldom any pre match entertainment and this sometimes turns teenage followers that are thoroughly bored waiting for the kick-off into undisciplined supporters.

The casual follower, the floating watcher of soccer matches no longer goes to grounds that can't provide him with a certain degree of comfort. He will simply stay away and like millions others have already done and get into the habit of becoming a T.V. soccer fan — and coverage on television in Great Britain is so skillfully presented that it's almost better than being at the game.

Until ground facilities are improved and the other evil, hooliganism is brought under control, attendance figures will continue to drop and empty terraces affect the quality of the matches.

x x x

Three London Clubs, Spurs, Queens Park Rangers and Millwall have made their managers the scapegoat for the lack of success of their team.

Certainly the Board of Directors, particularly of the three clubs mentioned have short memories and no manager can perform miracles all the time. There must always be a loser for every winner.

When Leeds Utd sacked Brian Clough, Don Revie who put the famous Yorkshire club on the world map had this to say about the sensational upheaval at his old club.

"I feel sorry for Brian Clough, because I don't like to see any manager lose his job — but I feel even sorrier for Leeds." There is a lot of wisdom in Revie's simple words that could also be studied by

the three London clubs administrators, if you can call them that, responsible for the removal of Nicholson, Jago and Fenton who have done a tremendous job for the clubs concerned.

x x x

The FA recently stated that the crackdown on Keegan of Liverpool and Bremner of Leeds was just the start of a renewed campaign to clean up soccer.

Bill Shankley, then manager of Liverpool said that the sentences passed were a bit vicious and in the Leeds camp the opinion was that the FA over-reacted but recent events have proved that this action by the FA Disciplinary Committee had the desired effect.

Players are better behaved and after all fighting and ripping a shirt off the back during the FA Charity Shield match at Wembley last August involving Leeds skipper Billy Bremner and Liverpool super star Kevin Keegan deserved strong measures.

x x x

We are told that soccer has fallen on hard times in Europe, but if you dig deep enough into the soccer pages of the European Press you will find that a club from the German Second Division are sunning themselves on the soft, white beaches of Acapulco, a moderate Austrian club is resting at the most expensive Inter-Continental Hotel on a luxury plus Spanish Seaside resort, a British Third Division side relaxing in Majorca is a French Second Division team, it makes you think twice.

x x x

When I was in England, Manchester United followers were given a "cool it" warning before their match against Millwall whose East London supporters are capable of mixing it with the toughest.

Several pubs and many shops were shut because they feared trouble.

And the trouble prone Stretford End fans left

Manchester with the warning —

- (a) walk, do not run.
- (b) Do not aggravate the Millwall supporters.
- (c) Do not get into strife with the police in London.
- (d) For peace sake try and enjoy the match.

David Smith, United's Supporters Club chairman issued the advice and said.

"Many of our fans are young and high spirited. As soon as they leave the trains, they start running. This upsets local people and immensely arouses the suspicion of the police."

Of course Mr Smith was right, Millwall security measures were tightened but did it prevent disturbances? Not on your Nelly! But extra police at New Cross Station and police dogs did a great job from what I was told. They prevented Hooligans from getting at each others throat and creating a serious situation.

x x x

Fashionable Arsenal may be in relegation trouble — a very unaccustomed situation for the Gunners, but heaven forbid, traditional customs must not change.

At the magnificent Highbury Stadium, if you are a VIP, you climb the marble staircase, turn right at the top and inside the boardroom, crammed with trophies, autumn, winter or spring, the visitor will find that Arsenal still decorate the tables on match days with flowers in the colour of the visiting team.

Needless to say it is a longstanding tradition of the famous club and in the fast changing, economy minded world of soccer, it is great to see that such fine gestures still remain. It is now 61 years since the Gunners moved from Woolwich in 1913 to their present luxurious home at Highbury, which does give the impression that Arsenal are a club of wealth and distinction.

However even Arsenal can no longer afford to turn down revenue and in the summer, they negotiated a deal with television, which raised the eyebrows of oldtimers who still are far from convinced that this move was a basic fact of modern day economic soccer life.

x x x

Luton Town secretary Bob Readhead, has been invited to return to Australia to give administration lectures to the N.S.W. Soccer Federation at the end of the English season.

Mr Readhead has a good opinion of the youngsters he saw in Australia last June, when his specific mission was to sign Socceroo Adrian Alston in Sydney, a move that paid dividends for the Luton club.

Like most overseas experts, he feels that Australian soccer clubs do not take advantage of the wealth of talent that is on their doorstep.

Manchester United's famous manager and now director Mr Matt Busby was of the same opinion when he was here and so was his illustrious star

Bobby Charlton when he was in Australia.

Anyway what's the odds on Mr Readhead taking at least one more player with him after his lecture series in New South Wales?

x x x

Player power? The latest thing in Britain and West Germany — according to the two countries sports writers — is the reason for the sacking of coaches and managers, policy changes and the general running of the clubs.

The verdict, a most unhealthy situation if true.

But clubs like Everton, Birmingham, Leeds, Chelsea and Coventry in England — Kickers Offenbach, Eintracht Frankfurt, F. C. Furth, Schalke 04 and F. C. Nurnberg of Germany categorically state that the club administrators, not the players have the ultimate responsibility for success or failure and make the decisions. The

players are the employees.

And finally —
AMEAR WOMAN'S VIEW
JUNE MEARS wife of Chelsea chairman Brian Mears, has six favourite footballers.

Guess who tops her list? Danny Blanchflower, the quiet Irishman who wanted the managerial hot seat at Spurs.

June has been watching football for 19 seasons and her list ("I hope I don't upset anyone.") is:

Blanchflower: "A majestic, commanding captain."

Denis Law: "He soared like a bird in flight."

Ralph Coates: "The perfect winger."

Charlie Cooke: "Such control... had the mind and body to outwit the best defenders."

Steve Heighway: "He raids in a long line... great fluidity of movement."

Gary Locke: "Because I can see the embryo of greatness."

ON SIDE WITH STEPHEN KALUS

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE VICTORIAN SOCCER FEDERATION took place last Thursday, initiated by several heated arguments between delegates of the Metropolitan and State League Clubs. Methods of clearances of players, promotion of two instead of one team to the State League and many other matters were discussed and at the end the chairman Mr. Teo Marmaras appealed to delegates of both parties to work together for the future progress of our game in Victoria.

A sub-committee of 3 delegates from each side, will work on the problems, which for a long time were the main reason for the warlike atmosphere between the Metropolitan and State league clubs.

John Gorton the former Board of Management chairman, who for the last two seasons remained quietly behind the scene of the Victorian soccer, criticized the administration of the Australian Soccer Federation and Teo Marmaras the ASF vicepresident went even further announcing that he resigned from the ruling body because he can't see any future progress of the game the way it is administered by the ASF.

Michael Weinstein — the Chairman of the Board of Management in his report said that in many ways the 1974 season was very progressive, but he warned the delegates to continue the hard work and to keep the momentum that has been achieved, so the future progress of soccer in Victoria can be assured.

x x x x

ANDY KUN AND TOMY BURNS THE STALWARTS OF VICTORIAN SOCCER were applauded by the delegates for their continuously hard work in the Federation. Mr. Kun who retired as vice-president of the VSF was elected Patron of the Federation and Tomy Burns came back as acting vice-president.

GEORGE KERRY POLONIAS PRESIDENT criticised the Australian Soccer Pools administration for the way they were appointing agents. Polonia one of the eldest and best administered state league clubs was refused an agency and the only Polish weekly paper in Victoria was omitted when advertising allocation was made.

x x x

THREE WELL KNOWN WHISTLE MEN RETIRED FROM THE GAME after years of refereeing. They are: Lamb, Harrison and Finegan. They were presented at the meeting with trophies.

x x x

AGAIN A RECORD CROWD WATCHED THE SECOND ROUND OF THE STATE LEAGUE Cup. The Alexander-George Cross game was a crowd pleaser and by no means one of the best games played this season in Victoria. In the second game JUST created a sensation when they fielded the Socceroo Nr. 2 goalkeeper Jimy Milisajevic at centre half back and replacing him in goal with Milan Cvijic.

Hellas looking a very tired team was well beaten by JUST and it looks like George Cross and Alexander will be fighting in the final of the State League Cup.

x x x

THE MELBOURNE POLONIA DEFEATED NORTH BRISBANE 3-0 in a friendly game played last week in Brisbane.

The club's secretary Mr. Ostrowski is back in Melbourne after visiting Poland. Mr. Ostrowski negotiated with several players in Poland. Their names will be released as soon as negotiations with Polish soccer officials will be finalized.

x x x

IN A QUALIFYING EUROPEAN CUP GAME POLAND BEAT FINLAND 3-0. The game was played in a Polish town Poznan and goalscorers for the Poles were: Lato, Kasperczak and Gadocha. In the next round Poland will play Holland and the winner will meet Italy.

x x x

MONASH UNIVERSITY SOCCER CLUB is organizing a "7 a side" competition which will be held on the Australia Day weekend (25-27 January). A similar competition was held earlier this year and was won by Sunshine City. Applications should be addressed to Mr. K. M. Downie, Monash University Soccer Club, 18 Saturn Street, North Balwyn.

x x x

KAZ DEYNA ONE OF THE TOP FORWARDS IN THE WORLD CUP SERIES and captain of Wks Legia (Warsaw) was promoted last week to the rank of first lieutenant. Deyna will be one of the guest players of LKS (Lodz) when the team will tour Australia.

x x x

WHO SAID THAT SAM MEYERS WAS SACKED AS COACH BY THE HAKOAH COMMITTEE? Myers contract with the club finished at the end of the state league season. When the new committee of Hakoah which will be elected on the 17 of November will advertise for a state league coach, Meyers like many others can apply for the position.

x x x
SANDY HENDERSON THE EX. HAKOAH GOALIE and at present the coach of the reserve team has submitted to his committee a report for the season 1974. In his report which from the coaching point of view is an excellent piece of work, Sandy suggests that a third team should be established in an effort to groom talented reserve players. By the way, Sandy who is a school teacher is soon going for a short holiday to Scotland and will look for couple of players for his club.

x x x

HALF WAY THROUGH THE SEASON the following teams are hoping the ladder in European countries: USSR-Dynamo (KIEV), Poland-Rush (Chorzow), Czechoslovakia-VSS (Koszyce), Yugoslavia-Crvena Zvezda-belgrad, Bulgaria-Lewski (Sofia), Sweden-Malbo Stockholm. Austria-Rapid-Vienna.

x x x

THE START OF THE AUSTRALIAN SOCCER POOLS was a great success and let's hope that the pools will boost the game in Victoria. A pity that so called "Foreign language press" was completely ignored by the public relation department of the ASP.

x x x

AUSTRALIAN SOCCER FEDERATION COULD NOT MAKE UP THEIR MIND whether to rejoin the Oceania Federation and the decision was postponed till the end of next month. The executives of the ASF did not have time until now to work out a program for our National team. The only game fixed for the "Socceroos" will be against LKS(Lodz) — thanks to the organisers of the tour — the VSF.

x x x

FRANK MICIC in the forward line and Milan Cvijic in goal were mostly responsible for their teams win against the champion team Hellas. Franks header was a gem and the young JUST reserve keeper brought up some excellent acrobatic safes.



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In the SPOTLIGHT

as seen by **FRED HABBE**

MALE CHAUVINISM AT ITS BEST

There is a lot of nonsense said and written by so-called or self-imposed soccer experts. But the articles on women's soccer by Sydney man Oscar Brown and Melbourne's latest addition to the soccer writer scene, Mike O'Hara, in Soccer Week only two weeks ago, crowned everything.

I have a lot of respect for Oscar Brown as a journalist, his reports from the Sydney scene make excellent reading and are highly informative, his view-points on women's soccer he might have kept for himself. In making the public believe that soccer playing girls are all "bum and boobs" and suggesting the whole thing to really be "a bit of a joke", Mr. Brown is first of all ridiculing himself. It's only a pity that primitive comments of that nature are doing the sport itself a lot of harm.

Mike O'Hara in my humble opinion better stick to goal-keeping. At least he knows something about it. The incredible arrogance that reads out of his "comments" goes beyond the point of being taken seriously.

What does Mike O'Hara know about the fitness of women players? What makes him qualified to say that girls are "unequipped for soccer"? To ridicule the girls to the extent of suggesting some of them would be more suited to "peeling potatoes" is simply very bad taste besides completely lacking objectivity.

When Sunday Observer Soccer writer, Fred Villiers, ridicules soccer playing girls, he can be excused for trying to be sensational to sell his paper. O'Hara certainly can't hide behind this excuse.

Perhaps the gentlemen cited should take note of the following, it might give them something to think about:

Women's Soccer is a major sport in most European and South American countries. In Germany alone more than 150,000 girls have taken to the game of soccer, and, to prove the seriousness of the whole affair, how does it strike you that the German Football Federation, the DFB, which incidentally is the largest sporting organisation in the world — the DFB has close to three million members — has affiliated the girls already a few years ago. National women's championships are organised by the DFB, and the Federation exercises tight control over transfer of players, in particular when money is involved. Should the German Football Federation have made a mistake? If one is to believe the writings of Mr. Brown and Mr. O'Hara one could be led to believe that. Looks like the DFB should have consulted our two "experts" in this field before "jumping" to any decision.

But then what about those hundreds of thousands women soccer players outside Germany? English, Scottish, Dutch, French and Italians. What about those tens of thousands of dollars that are paid for the transfer of top players?

What about those tens of thousands of spectators that come to watch top women play? It must all

be a big hoax. After all, Mr. Brown and Mr. O'Hara are telling us so. Women aren't physically equipped, according to Mr. O'Hara. Well, that's an awful lot of ill equipped women enjoying the sport. Or could it be that these girls have acquired the fitness, skill and ability to actually play soccer?

Could anybody in his right mind honestly believe that a girl would deliberately stake her femininity, or for that matter hundreds of thousands of girls all over the world?

Victoria's top women player, Hazel Donovan of Green Gully, loses nothing of her gracefulness when she moves elegantly over the football field, and I could cite many more examples.

What makes soccer less suitable for women than hockey, basketball or athletics goes beyond my comprehension.

"Grotesque appearances", as O'Hara likes to bill it, when "jostling and falling for the quest of the ball", are the order of the day in any of those sports mentioned, regardless of men or women playing.

Everybody is entitled to his opinion, but sometimes it is advisable to keep an opinion for oneself. If Messrs. Brown and O'Hara deem women unsuitable to play soccer it doesn't logically follow that anybody else in our community represents similar viewpoints. Pity only that so many prospective players and supporters are completely misled and even turned away from the sport by unqualified and primitive statements of the above description.

The Victorian Soccer Federation for one has seen the light and is giving the Victorian Women's Association all the help it can. Fortunately, those supporting the girls are by far the majority, and "knockers" only isolated cases.

Enough said!

ETHNIC CLUB NAMES — WHAT CONFUSION

Imagine the following situation: a newcomer to the code of soccer takes an interest in the progress of the State League. Let's say he supports Mooroolbark. Mooroolbark plays neighbours Ringwood City on a Saturday. Our Mooroolbark supporter wasn't

able to watch that match so he gets himself a copy of the Sunday Press early on Sunday morning. He finds out that his side drew with Ringwood, and when checking the table he notices South Melbourne right on top and his team close to the bottom.

To check on the final positions after the complete round of matches both Saturday and Sunday our friend gets himself a copy of the AGE on Monday morning. Again he goes through all the results and to his disbelief he reads that Mooroolbark didn't draw with Ringwood as he had learnt the day earlier, but the opposition was in fact a team called Wilhelmina. Puzzled the good man goes a step further to check the tables, but what confusion. Only four of the teams he saw in the Sunday Press are in the AGE table. All the rest are strange foreign sounding names.

The same night over a glass of beer the utterly confused Mooroolbark supporter gets the facts straight from his mate who introduced him to the game. Okay, he now knows that Hellas and South Melbourne or St. Kilda and Hakoah etc. are one and the same thing, what he doesn't understand, though, along with tens of thousands of fellow soccer fans, is why such contrasting information can be published by responsible newspapers. Well, I for one don't understand that either.

The Victorian Soccer Federation, in a bid to make the game more appealing to the Australian public, decided a few years back to phase out the ethnic names. Member clubs with ethnic names were requested to adopt an Australian name, preferably in addition to their ethnic club name with the ultimate goal that the ethnic names could eventually be dropped altogether. In the meantime applications from new clubs would only be considered if the club would register a suitable Australian name.

Clubs in general have been co-operating and State League teams like Ringwood City or Footscray are today better known under their suburban names than their original ethnic names, Wilhelmina and JUST respectively.

However, while the

clubs show the necessary co-operation, some stubborn soccer writers, and I refer in this instance particularly to Laurie Schwab of the AGE, make all the efforts by the VSF administration and the clubs look a farce, and ridiculous situation are created. At some stage of the season the top four State League would read in the Sunday Press: 1. South Melbourne, 2. Fitzroy United, 3. St. Kilda, 4. Footscray.

The next day in the AGE the top four would appear as follows: 1. Hellas, 2. Alexander, 3. Hakoah, 4. J.U.S.T.

Get my point?

The situation is in fact worse when Laurie Schwab refers to Metro League teams like Princes Park as Hercules, Essendon City as Triestina, East Melbourne as Helvetic etc. Some of these ethnic names are so ancient that not only have the clubs dropped them altogether, but also the majority of soccer followers wouldn't even remember them, or at least would be unable to associate them.

Laurie Schwab interested in the progress of the game? I sincerely hope so. But if he is, and if he wants to be taken serious as a soccer writer, he must see the signs of the time and rid himself of that childish and stubborn persistence to refer to outdated ethnic names. At present he certainly isn't doing the game a great service.

5-A-SIDE COMPETITION

Box Hill S.C. will hold a U' 12 5-A-Side Competition at Wembley Park on Sat. 2nd and Sun. 3rd.

K.O. is at 9.30 a.m. on Sunday and Saturday. Final is to be played on Sunday afternoon, and everybody is welcome.

All proceeds go for the trip to New Zealand.

MORE BIG GAMES WANTED IN 1975!

THE State League Cup games between Hellas, JUST, Alexander and George Cross, have proved that the soccer public will pay to see top-class games.

More games of this standard are required next season and the federation, as well as the State League, should make sure that the public receive what they want. In planning the winter competition, week-ends should be set aside to play the top-four in a similar competition as the State League Cup.

It will not only give an added incentive to clubs to get in the top four but it will also be an extra money spinner for the clubs concerned.

Everyone knows the biggest crowds watch the Hellas-Alexander games. And there is no doubt these games provide the most action and colour on the field.

A mini competition of this kind would be an added boost to the sport and officials should not be afraid to allow TV in to capture some of the thrills and excitement of these matches.

We all know what GTV9 has done for soccer this season. Some fail to realise the value of the media but it is paying off now during the State League Cup.

The steady build up by the weekly GTV9 live telecasts have given the game a shot in the arm during one of the best years on record for soccer publicity.

What with TV and the World Cup, soccer has never had it so good. And now the Pools have arrived to add another boost for the sport.

There is no doubt in the long run, soccer will win in Victoria. It cannot be held down much longer.



Morwell Falcons officials, left to right: Secretary Charlie Zammit, president Don Difabrizio and Life Member Henry Richter proudly display the senior and reserve pennants, won in their first season in Provisional League.



Chris Dwyer, Monash University secretary and P.R.O. who collected Monash's first V.S.F. trophy, the Fourth Division Reserves Pennant.



New Life Member of the V.S.F., Mr H. M. Knott, prominent Melbourne solicitor and long-time Chairman of the V.S.F. Appeals Committee.

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Closes 12th Nov. 1974

JUNIOR NEWS FROM CLUBS

SUNSHINE CITY SPORTS CLUB, JUNIOR PRESENTATION BALL

Sunshine City Under 9s Award winners: (Back) Bill Johnson, coach; (Front left to right) Bradley Johnson, best and fairest; Simon Brealey, best team man; Luke Gezun, most improved; John Bruno, most consistent.

A capacity crowd was present on Friday night at the Mariana Hall, Monash Street, Sunshine, to mark the end of a very successful junior season, during which the under 15s took out the league flag, and the under 12s went through the league season undefeated to win the premiership, under 11s were third, under 10s fourth, and the mighty atoms, the under 9s, were pipped on the post to become league runner-up.



Amongst the guests of honour were V.S.F. official and life member VIC MANSON, J.L.M.C. member ERNIE BARROT, chairman of Sunshine City, STEWART JOHNSON, and junior league sec. LOLA JOHNSON. A touch of glamour was added by the appearance of MISS SOCCER 1974, SUE BARROT, whose presence seemed to interest the delighted fathers somewhat.

The following awards were made to the Junior players:

- Under 15s:**
Most improved: BOB BULZ.
Best and Fairest: CHRIS JOHNSON.
Most Consistent: TONY TURKO.
Best Team man: JEFF BANAGAN.
- Under 12s (League Champions two years running)**
Best and Fairest: VIC BUTTIGIEG.
Most Improved: MIMO SBAGLIA.
Most Consistent: FRANK MABER.
Best Team man: ADAM OBREMBALSKI.
Coached by WALLY MEILAK.
- Under 11s**
Best and Fairest: RONNIE CREMERS.
Most Improved: SHANE GELUN.
Most Consistent: JOHN BLEICHARZ.
Best Team man: NICK PALMA.
- Under 10s**
Best and Fairest: FRANKO VUK.
Most Consistent: PAUL BUXTON.
- Under 9s**
Best and Fairest: BRADLEY JOHNSON.
Most Improved: LUKE GEZUN.
Most Consistent: JOHN BRUNO.
Best Team man: SIMON BREALEY.
Coached by senior goalkeeper BILL JOHNSON.
- Under 13s**
Best and Fairest: NINO COMENGO.
Most Improved: TINO MAGUIOR.
Most Consistent: JOE HAMER.
Special encouragement award CRAIG BOLT 15yrs. Best junior clubman LORI GRILZ 14yrs.

Sunshine City Under 12s League Champions:

(Back row left to right) Vic Buttigieg, best and fairest; Mimo Sbaglia, most improved; Wally Meilak, coach. (Front row left to right) Frank Maber, most consistent; Adam Obrembalski, best team man.

BENDIGO WANT TO SEE VICTORIAN SIDE

BENDIGO Soccer League is anxious to see the Victorian State team play a match in their city soon.

Bendigo boasts a great league and claim if they are given sufficient notice they can produce a big crowd for a game under lights during the summer.

Four years ago there were no soccer teams in Bendigo but today there are seven, and the prospect of another division next season. There are also 10 junior clubs which play on Sundays.

Bendigo is only two hours drive from Melbourne and is ideal for a visit for Victoria's state side. It would do two things if the state team went to Bendigo.

First it would be showing the soccer flag and would be giving the sport a great publicity lift in a strong footy district.

Second it would be giving the state team match practice for their clash with LKS, of Poland, next January.

State coach Tony Boggi should insist that his boys get a run in Bendigo. There is no excuse.

The VSF have the money to spare to send the Victorians away for a week-end and at the same time produce some good public relations.

The Mayor of Bendigo, Mr. Dick Turner, said last week, soccer was kicking on in his city.

As he is also a sports commentator on the local radio station 3BO, he would no doubt give the game some valuable publicity should the Victorian side decide to play in his city.

What about it Soccer House?

SOCCER WEEK'S PERSONALITY

RUSSELL WILSON

By GEORGE YELLAND

President of Albion Rovers Soccer Club, life long lover of the world's number one big ball game and a man of integrity, vision and reliability, Russell Wilson is just one more of that tremendous band of dedicated people who have established the game in Victoria and are fast developing it to a point where it will rival every other code.

Sponsored by the Melbourne club, along with that very fine player Jimmy Pearson, Russell and his wife emigrated to Australia in 1962.

Within six months, he got together with an enthusiastic bunch of Soccer fanatics and initiated the Albion Rovers Soccer and Athletics Club.

The names of the founder members will, no doubt, bring memories

back to a lot of our readers.

Everybody in Soccer knows David Berry, Sunshine councillor and ex-mayor of that city. He was Albion's first president.

Alex McArthur and Bill Martin are still active in the club and have been

since its inception.

First treasurer, John Duncan, dogged by ill health, had to give the game away, but still follows the club's activities.

It will surprise some to know that Sunshine City stalwart, Sammy Wilson, was not only a founder member of Albion Rovers, but also its first secretary.

John Egerton was another of that founder group, but has since given the game away for personal reasons.

Last of the band was Russell Wilson who is, of course, the current club president. Russell just lives for Albion Rovers and works unceasingly for the implementation of the blue print to reach the top, which was evolved in the earliest days of the club's existence.

Russell modestly says that he was a better supporter of the game than a player, but he played in Albion Rovers' first ever game and they downed Melita 1-0.

The year 1963 saw the start of competitive Soccer for the Rovers.

The V.S.F. admitted them to Division Four along with Green Gully Ajax and both clubs are now valued members of Metropolitan League's premier division.

NO GROUND

Albion started as a club without a ground. They played at Albion quarry, but the V.S.F. would not accept it as a playing area and Sunshine Council gave them use of Castley Reserve.

In the club's enormous development, Russell pays tribute to the help given by Sunshine Council and also that from Federal Member Mr. Bon Thomas.

Since moving to Selwyn Park, Albion has leaped forward. They have one of the biggest and best developed junior set ups in Victoria and also sponsor Sunshine Heights Junior S.C.

HAMPDEN PARK

Russell Wilson was born near the famous Hampden Park, home of Queens Park and venue for Scottish International matches and Scottish Cup Finals, on Xmas Day 1939, in the early days of the Second World War.

At an early age he was evacuated from Glasgow to Lesmahagon, a small Lanarkshire mining village.

In 1946 the family went back to Glasgow, to live near Maryhill.

Russell was educated at Napier's Hall Street school and like all Scots played Soccer at school. He realised that he was no International in the making and became an avid spectator, regularly visiting Ibrox Park one week, to watch the world renowned Glasgow

Rangers and Firhill the next, to watch Partick Thistle.

GREATSPECTACLE

He says that one of the great spectacles of world Soccer is a Rangers-Celtic match, with one half of the ground blue and the other green and an atmosphere like no other Soccer game on earth.

He recalls seeing many clashes between these outstanding clubs and remembers being nearly crushed to death at Parkhead, home of Celtic, when the crowd broke the barriers.

Russell's father died of cancer when he was 14, he had lost a leg during the war and became a "Red Cap" in Glasgow, working for the Earl Haig organisation.

When his dad died, he went to live in Greenock and stayed there until emigrating to Australia in 1962.

On leaving school, he became an apprentice joiner in the Clyde side ship yards. He joined the local Rangers supporters club and later on became a committee man.

GREAT INFLUENCE

It was around this time that he met a young man who had a big influence on the course his life followed in the next decade.

He met Jimmy Pearson, one of Scotland's most promising juniors of that era, who played in the same team as Chelsea's legendary Charlie Cook.

Jimmy signed for Greenock Morton and played with Hugh Murney, captain of Morton and now coach of Albion Rovers.

Jimmy and Russell went on holiday together and on one occasion met a charming 19-year-old Scottish lassie called Eileen Dargie.

Eileen, an Aberdeen girl, married Russell in Greenock, in 1960.

Coincidentally, Jimmy also married an Aberdeen girl and transferred to the Aberdeen club, only to

find he was teaming up with Charlie Cook again.

LIVED IN LONDON

Jimmy went to Tonbridge Wells in the south of England and Russell worked as a carpenter in London, living near Highbury, home of the famous Arsenal Soccer Club.

After a year down with the sassenachs, they returned to Scotland, where Jimmy was recruited by the Melbourne Soccer club, here in Victoria.

They brought him out and also sponsored Russell and wife.

Leaving the U.K. on a cold March morning in 1962, they arrived at Essendon via Sydney, two days later.

They were met by Vic Manson, with whom Jimmy stayed. Russell went to live with relatives in Sunshine.

Jimmy Pearson had an illustrious career in Australian Soccer. He played eight times for Australia and went on the 1963 tour of S.E. Asia.

Jimmy transferred to Pan Hellenic in Sydney, but Russell was happy in Melbourne and decided to settle here. His wife was pregnant and Russell set about building a house, very close to the Selwyn

Park ground.

In all it took him two years to build a house and bungalow, which is now occupied by his mother and stepfather.

FUTURE PLANS

Russell is popular with everyone at Selwyn Park because of his down to earth honesty and singleness of purpose.

He rejoices in every progressive move made by this forward looking club. They have a long term plan with juniors and expect to start reaping the rewards of all the efforts being put into junior promotion, in a couple of years' time.

They have tremendous club rooms at Selwyn Park, amongst the best in Victoria and everyone is working towards the time when Albion Rovers take their place in State League, as they are convinced they will in the not too distant future.

Russell is another Soccer lover who wants to see unity in the game in this State.

Like all knowledgeable Soccer men, he realises that divided forces can never accomplish as much as united forces.

He feels that the time has come for a new and fairer deal for the Metropolitan League.



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